



# BETWEEN US

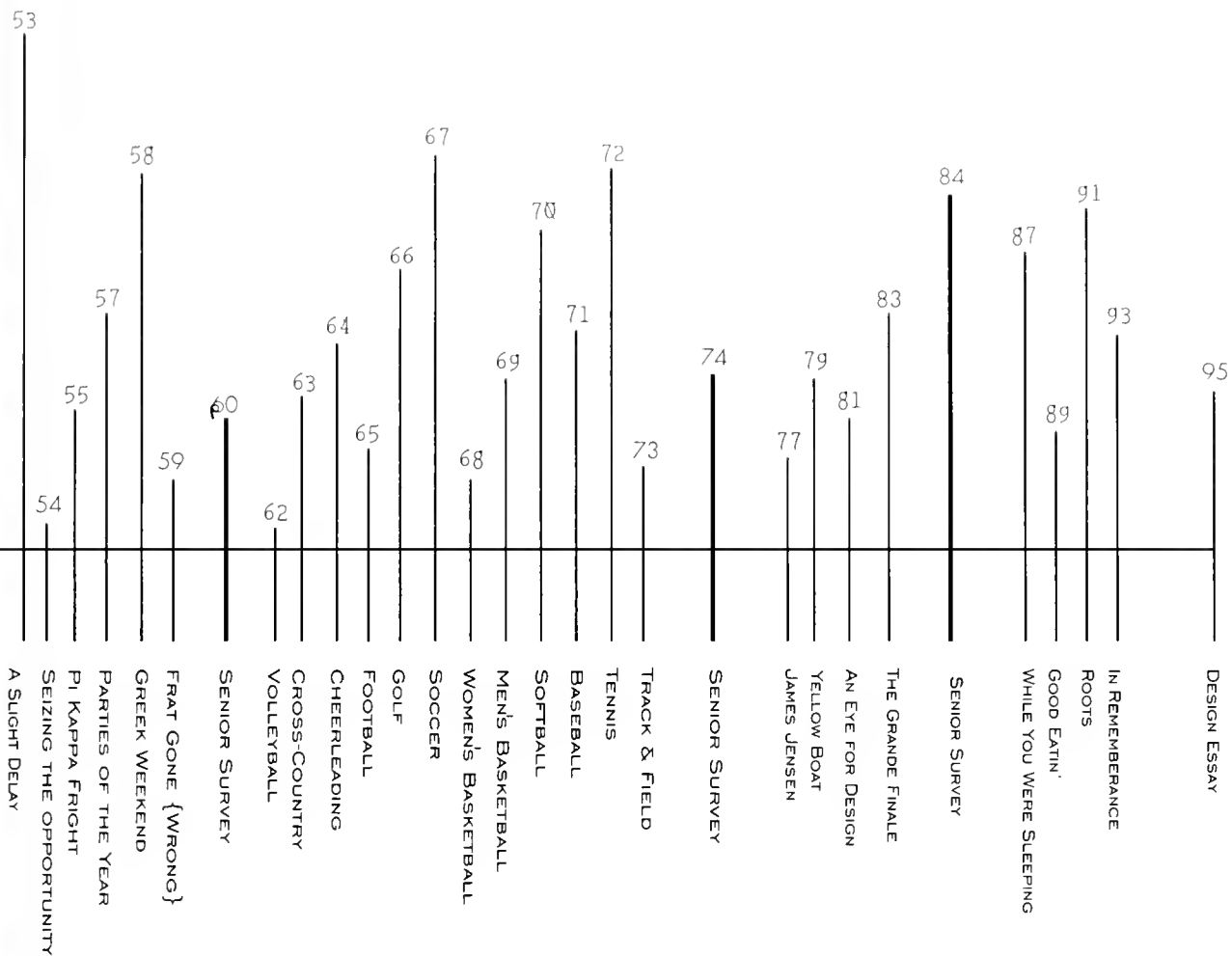
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voices | entre nous | 2004





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Pledge

Cheer

Interpret Whisper

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The staff of *Entre Nous* seeks to provide documentation of a year in the life of the Sanford Community. To us this means more than recounting events. We seek to capture the impressions the year left on students, faculty, and administration by moving beyond the events themselves to the way they affected and shaped us.

Sanford University is an Equal Opportunity Institution and welcomes applications for employment and educational programs from all individuals regardless of race, color, sex, age, disability, or national or ethnic origin.

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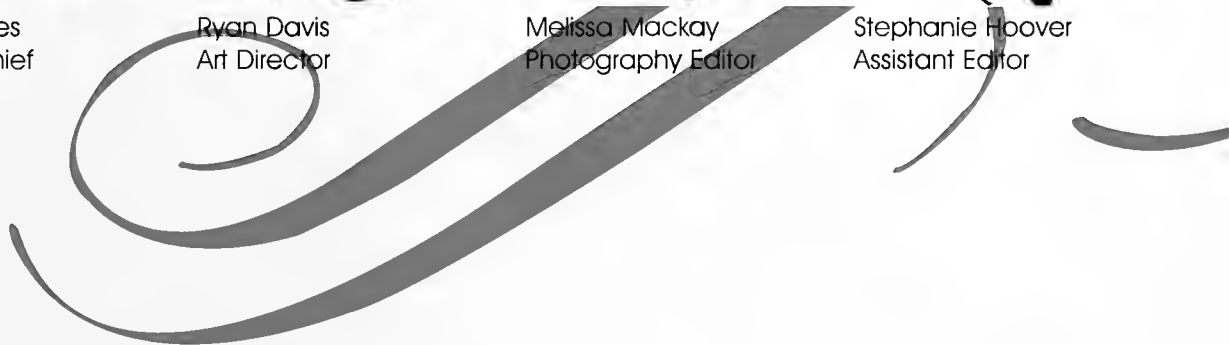
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One month passed. Hundreds of story ideas were compressed into 41, and ready for investigation. Rather than excitement, I harbored anxiety. Anxiety about how we were going to tie together stories ranging from the nostalgic retellings of Homecoming and Samford's history to the tragic story of a child with AIDS and the powerful words of a United States soldier.

And then it came to me. "Entre Nous." French for

"between us." More than a title, it

is the bridge that connects these pages together. We can read about univer-

sity traditions and secrets, current political issues, spiritual transformations,

personal achievements and social remembrances all in one place, because of

what this magazine should truly represent -

a publication that  
binds us

together as a student body and as an  
institution. Between us, these are our stories.

*Rusley E. Jones*  
Editor-in-chief

## WHERE'S THE BEST PLACE TO TAKE A DATE?

- A concert at WorkPlay
- The Waffle House on Greensprings - very classy.
- Date table in the Caf, especially if it's behind a Step Sing poster
- Chez Lulu
- Wagamama's in London
- Mountain Brook village during Christmas
- Frisbee Golf at Ward Park
- Alabama Theatre
- Highland Coffee Company
- Birmingham Zoo
- Where's the best place to GET a date?

## WHAT'S THE BEST THING TO DO IN THE LIBRARY, EXCLUDING STUDYING?

- Sleep on the comfy couches
- Watching people trying to flirt with the opposite gender
- Hide and go seek
- Making and throwing paper airplanes at people at the front desk from the third floor
- Dressing up in an owl costume and scaring the library patrons
- Trying to make Jerry, the circulation night manager, laugh during closing announcements
- Sneak in open drink containers
- Watching people try to put the newspaper back on the holder thingy
- Don't go there, it's scary
- Roll down the main stairwell in a sleeping bag
- Stalk 3rd floor mystery guys
- Carry an anti-war sign during a book dedication by Dr. Corts. All trustees present.

## WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE CLASS AND/OR PROFESSOR AT SAMFORD?

- Dr. Sharlach's Developing Nations
- Sports Nutrition with Dr. Ruble
- Invertebrate field zoology with Dr. Howell and Dr. Jenkins
- Criminology with Mrs. Tubbs
- Abnormal Psyc. with Dr. Siegfried
- Basketball with Dr. Czech over Jan Term
- Snow Skiing in Austria
- JMC 200 freshman year with Dr. Jones
- Theories of Earth Development with Dr. Marler
- Intro to Sociology with Dr. Roberts
- Aerobics with Ms. Gann
- Fiction and Film with Dr. Johnson
- Oral Communication with Dr. Killian Manning



## Echo

FIVE DAYS OF SPIRIT

CHANGING CROWNS

REVOLUTIONARY





homecoming 2003

# homecoming



By  
Peggy  
Pursell

*It's exciting, spirit-filled, unifying and dynamic. It's a time for remembering and making new memories, and a week-long celebration for the university that thousands of students and alumni proudly call their alma mater. It's the week of Samford University's homecoming.*

Homecoming chairs Hannah Hunter and Ellen Robinson took on the task of producing a variety of interconnected events to enhance the excitement and to create a spirit of unification. "We really wanted to emphasize the sense of community among students and to highlight the football team," Hunter said.

The girls began their work by instating the theme, "Capture the Tigers," to stir up school spirit among students for the Bulldogs' weekend fight against Tennessee State. Students quickly caught on to the idea with the week-long "Capture the Tigers" contest. With a set of clues to follow, students went in pursuit of 25 plush mini-prowlers that were hiding in various nooks and crannies all over campus. Once students had the animals in their custody, they placed them in a cage in the center of the Caf in exchange for a free homecoming T-shirt as their reward or an entrance pass VisionLand, which hosted students Friday night.

Homecoming officially started in a rather formal fashion on Tuesday, with a

Thanksgiving-style celebratory dinner in the Caf. The good food and massive drop-down screen, which showed clips of the Samford football team, enticed students to linger past the usual 6:30 exodus. Later, students dashed outside to try their hand at a tiger piñata, pumpkin carving, or tug-of-war.

On Wednesday, Samfordites donned their red and blue and packed Ben Brown Plaza for a chance to receive their own caricature drawing. The Caf





set up a wax hands station and Harry's Coffeehouse featured Jill Paquette in concert later that night.

On Thursday night, everyone made their way down to the tennis courts for a variety of activities. Students climbed their way to the top of a three-story inflatable slide, fiercely competed on the jousting platform and stood in line for the bungee run. And everyone worked up an appetite for free Krispy Kreme doughnuts and hot chocolate. Meanwhile, members of various campus organizations worked diligently on their homecoming displays for the annual competition. Samford Idol, a rendition of the popular TV show, closed down the evening with stellar, and not so stellar, performances from students.

On Friday night the sky over Homewood lit up like Las Vegas with a jaw-dropping fireworks display over the baseball field. Alumni, faculty and staff dined on "Tiger Toast" around a blazing bonfire, tapping their feet to the music of a local band. When the smoke cleared, the party moved to VisionLand.

When game day arrived, students, faculty and other Bulldog fans poured into Seibert Stadium. This year's crowd was the second largest with more than 10,000 people. Half-time featured the coronation of Courtney Leach and Joseph Wells as Homecoming Queen and King, and

"We really wanted to emphasize the sense of community among students," Hunter said.

the second half followed with a final of score of 29-24, leaving the Bulldogs just short of victory.

In spite of defeat, the festivities continued with Nickel Creek. With their amazing mastery of the cello, fiddle and mandolin, the threesome brought a sold-out crowd to their feet; this was the largest crowd ever to attend an event at the Wright Center. "I thought they were incredible," said sophomore biology/pre-med major Todd Fleenor. "I was most taken when they [performed] 'Be Thou My Vision' in a cappella at the end."

Year after year, Homecoming marks a milestone in the lives of all Samford students, especially the seniors. "Homecoming gave me a chance to celebrate Samford, our traditions, football, history and future one last time as a student and to take memories such as these into my future endeavors," said senior math and French major Dorothy Thetford.

And for newcomers, like freshman political science major Roderick Evans, the traditions are just beginning to emerge. "Homecoming is a celebration of past, present and future," he says. "It is where you revisit the good old days. And who doesn't want to revisit something they love?"





# Miss Samford

*Crown to Crown*  
by Meredith Upton

Traditions. Traditions. How did they come to be? Though probably not the foremost question in the minds of Samford students, who can say they have never wondered why the "Cal" is called the "Cal," or why rubbing Major Davis' nose supposedly brings good luck to students. The Miss Samford pageant is another one of the university's traditions that has stood the test of time.

Quite a lot has changed since the women of 1917, parents and grandparents' generations floated pageants. The

annual pageant was first known as the "Miss Entre Nous pageant." The title of "Miss Samford" along with "Mr. Samford" were originally the names given to the Homecoming Queen and King.

Besides the name of the pageant, the format of the Miss Entre Nous pageant significantly differed from the current competition. In the '70s, instead of voluntarily signing up for the pageant, different organizations chose Samford female participants to sponsor. Organizations from all over campus, such as fraternities and sororities, the A Capella Choir, Phi Mu Alpha and honor societies, selected women to represent their group in the pageant.

Kathy Sandler Delsch, who represented Pi Kappa Phi in the Miss Entre Nous pageant of 1976, had mixed feelings about carrying the name of an organization.

"I was nervous," said Delsch. "That wasn't something I had ever done before, but I was very honored and excited."

Today, contestants voluntarily sign up for the pageant. Men who represent different organizations only serve as escorts.

For many years, Miss Entre Nous was not a preliminary to the Miss Alabama pageant. After the pageant, the winner was invited to participate in other pageants that would lead to Miss Alabama, or she would represent the school in separate event pageants. Since Miss Samford became a preliminary, many of the winners have gone on to vie for and even win the title of "Miss Alabama."

Although intimidated by the next level of competition, Miss Samford 2003 Kristen Howard continued to advance her platform Save-a-Life that provides a pro-life environment for unplanned pregnancies. She worked at the center before entering the pageant and will continue to work there at least once a week. She also plans to continue the Miss Alabama pageant scholarship fund and continue advocating her platform.

"It will help me learn how to lead and pursue this big project," Howard said.

Another one of the major changes that occurred in the evolution of Miss Samford was the addition of the talent, swimsuit and stage interview portions of the pageant. In Miss Entre Nous, contestants participated in one preliminary interview with the judges. Then, the contestants were dismissed and the rest proceeded to the next program. Participants had only two outfits for the program, a swimsuit and an evening gown, in comparison to the four clothing changes Miss Samford contestants make now.

Along with clothing categories, the talent and stage question portions were added in the early 1980's. In the swimsuit portion debuted in 1991's competition. With these additions, the judges had more to look for in the contestants, giving the pageant a more competitive edge.

"When you know that there is more to a contestant than just what you see, it gives you a greater appreciation of who she is. It's not just who she is on the surface level and how she looks, it's how she is on the inside," said Samford 2003.

Howard said that she was surprised that Miss Samford 2003 Alison Skinner was not a biology major. Alison Skinner said that on the morning of the pageant, she and the judges to score not only on what they saw, but also on what they heard. Skinner said that the judges to score not only on what they saw, but also on what they heard. Skinner said that the judges to score not only on what they saw, but also on what they heard.

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"From a director's standpoint, it was a huge success," Skinner said.

Howard said that the judges to score not only on what they saw, but also on what they heard. Skinner said that the judges to score not only on what they saw, but also on what they heard. Skinner said that the judges to score not only on what they saw, but also on what they heard.

Step Sing. In 1950, that's exactly what participants brought to the stage; they stepped from side to side and harmonized thematic pieces of music. Fifty-four years later, students have left the risers for an entire stage to incorporate dancing and syncopated "secret moves" that wow audiences, and tickets are available through Ticketmaster. In effect, Step Sing was "revolutionized," and that's exactly what 2004 participating organizations aimed to present - a "Revolution."

"We gave the directors that one blanket theme, we didn't give them any other parameters," said Step Sing director Jennifer Clapp. Before each group performance, an introductory video was shown to the audience explaining how their show fit the "Revolution" theme. The group that best incorporated the theme into their show was awarded "Most Revolutionary," an award unique to Step Sing 2004.

In addition to the blanket theme, a fifth judge was added to the usual panel of four - the audience. Each member of the crowd was given the opportunity to score participants on Thursday and Friday nights. The votes were tallied on Saturday and added to the groups' scores to help determine the winner.

# Revolution



"We felt that as the body of people we are performing for, the audience has a great idea of who should win," said Clapp, "Sweepstakes is an all-encompassing award that should include an all-around, all-encompassing show."

And this year's "all-encompassing" show went to the brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha. The 2004 Sweepstakes winner, "Timmy's Big Adventure," was written and composed by senior religion major David Warren. The group's humorous portrayal of a young man's journey through Samford, was accompanied by entertaining theatrics and unmatched harmonies.

"We wanted to write our own show about a kid who gets in trouble and Lambda Chi is his savior who shows him the way," said Warren. "We wanted to be revolutionary and we knew that this was the year to do it."

## "Step Sing was 'revolutionized', and that's exactly what 2004 participating organizations aimed to present."

The Independent Ladies took First Runner Up with their show "Nowadays: A Revolution on the Fringe." The audience was transported back in time to the "roaring '20's" and the birth of the flapper – a brave, flirtatious woman who

took her skirt from the ankle to the knee. The group took on the persona of the "scandalous" flapper and rounded out the performance with an excerpt from the Broadway musical and feature film, *Chicago*.

"We were thrilled to be the highest ranked female show since we don't have the large support system that the sororities have," said sophomore Independent Ladies participant and journalism major Caroline Catlett.

Phi Mu went "Top Secret" and took Second Runner Up and Achievement in Choreography in the competition. The sisters presented the revolution of James Bond, a film legend who has stood the test of time and evolved from Sean Connery to Pierce Brosnan. "I told the girls to just have fun," said director Mandy Rigsby.

Other shows this year included: the Freshman Class "Rotate," the sisters of Alpha Delta Pi "ADPi Presents Hushville, USA: A Tribute to the Spirit of Motown," the brothers of Pi Kappa Phi "British Invasion," Student Ministries "From Me to You," the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha "ZTA Hits the Runway," the brothers of Sigma Chi "Love: The Vicious Cycle," the sisters of Chi Omega "A Doll's Life," and the sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi "A League of Their Own."

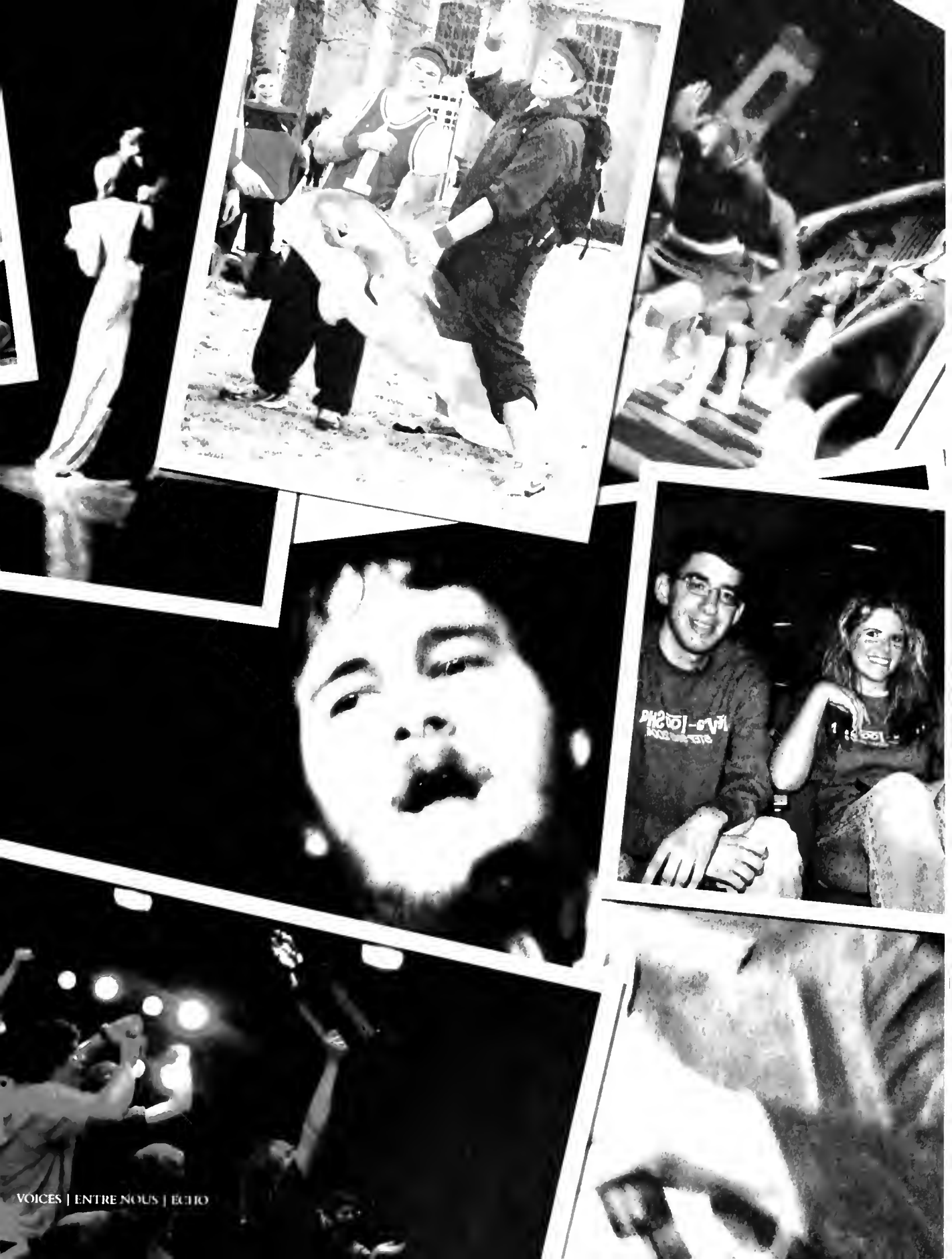












hose

## The SGA.

That office  
in the  
University  
Center

Those people  
that randomly  
wear matching  
shirts. Those  
representatives to  
the administration.

That group behind  
concerts on campus,  
changes in policy. The  
team whose focus is to  
enhance a positive undergrad-  
uate experience for all students.

The people that pushed for new  
amenities at Samford and won.

If you enjoyed seeing Nickel Creek,  
parking in front of Pittman for a quick run to the  
food court, or having the option to visit the  
opposite sex in dorms more than once a week,  
then you should thank the Student

Government Association. With a full staff  
and over 250 volunteers, the SGA works  
diligently to meet the needs of the student  
body whether in the form of events or  
administrative changes.

The six-figure budget, given annually to  
the organization, has made the 2003-2004  
academic year one packed with activities  
geared to enhance the college experience.

The Student Activities Council presented the popular blue-  
grass trio Nickel Creek for this year's homecoming concert  
and secured a host of other top-name artists on campus  
including Ginny Owens, Shaun Groves and Shane Bernard.

One of the newest additions to the SGA's Senate's  
agenda was the Classy Night of the Arts. Held at the  
Birmingham Museum of Art for students and faculty, this  
event was designed as an outlet for both groups to interact  
outside of the classroom. Senate also accomplished the suc-  
cessful implementation of extended library hours.

Besides the entertainment of students, the SGA  
serves as a facilitator of student concern to the administra-  
tion. This year, SGA President Joseph Wells and his staff  
concentrated on communicating the desires of the student  
body to the administration and working to achieve supple-  
mentary benefits for undergraduates. It is because of their  
efforts that 15 minute parking in front of Pittman Hall  
exists. They successfully executed increased visitation for all  
areas of campus and involved the university in service proj-  
ects to benefit Perry County and Jesse's Place.

The SGA is involved in more aspects of the uni-  
versity than most realize. Behind almost every event, every  
new freedom awarded to students, every proposal for a bet-  
ter on-campus environment, lies this group of students ded-  
icated to promoting the enhancement of all aspects of col-  
lege life. That office in the University Center. Those people  
that randomly wear matching shirts. That group that  
improves the quality of Samford each year. The SGA.

mike giles & lesley jones

## WHAT WAS YOUR MOST ODD CAF MOMENT?

- Watching the kid freshmen year who fell, spilt his tray of food, and ran down the stairs before anyone could make out who he was
- In the old Caf, I was getting a drink and I glanced up above the machine and Tommy was peering down at me. Apparently, he did this all the time. Creepy.
- Entering the "new Caf" for the first time and being completely lost
- Being cursed by the Salad Nazi
- One time Joe yelled at me for putting sprinkles on my ice cream
- When they remodeled the Caf and took away the chocolate pudding
- Once one of the Caf helpers kept putting croutons on my tray one at a time while I was fixing my salad.
- Getting yelled at by Ms. Dot
- Sitting next to a girl who turned me down for a date one week earlier
- I watched a guy use the frozen yogurt machine for the first time, and he couldn't figure out how to turn it off. A panicked look came over his face as he yelled, "Help!"
- Every time I took a bite of their food

## WHAT'S THE BEST PRANK YOU'VE PULLED DURING THE PAST FOUR YEARS?

- Releasing white mice into my friend's dorm after he dumped salt all over me when I was in the shower
- Either putting the Chi O owl in the fountain or hiding their flag in a place that they will definitely never find it
- Dressing my little sister up as a gorilla and letting her loose in Beeson Woods
- Turned the heat up in all the rooms of the Phi Mu house while everyone else was at chapter.
- Kate Pyles dressing as an owl and walking through the library. She got kicked out for "disturbing the peace"
- All I have to say is: DZ Attic
- Back in the days of three-way calling, calling two people in the middle of the night and listen to them argue over who called who.
- When Jayson Dobelstein and I put a block of ice covered in soap in Brad Stockton's toilet
- In our chapter room, there was a huge box of candy bars. A few of us carefully opened the packages, took a bite out of the middle of each one, put them back together and resealed the wrappers. The next night, they had all been eaten. Muhahaha
- It wasn't intentional, but a friend and I almost burned down Vail freshman year by leaving the laminating machine on.
- Doct-taping Weezer's stuff on his ceiling and turning everything in his room upside down and backwards.
- We called Chris Weaver pretending we were Campus Safety because we knew he had a girl in his room. He denied it, but later in the week we found out she had jumped out of his window (8 feet high)....in heels!
- putting chocolate pudding under the door handles outside Smith...the reactions were priceless

## Declare

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

A WORLD APART

LETTERS HOME

CONAN THE GOVERNER

NO TAXATION

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

ROYR IN MONTGOMERY

27



# Operation Iraqi Freedom

Our great challenge is to protect the American people. Our great opportunity is to advance the cause of justice and human dignity and freedom all across the world. -President George W.

by Lesley Jones

Operation Iraqi Freedom.

What does it mean?

Securing weapons of mass

destruction? Capturing

Saddam Hussein? Creating

a democracy for Iraqi citi-

zens? Emotions surrounding

American involvement stand

in conflict. To many it

translates as a means of

economic gain, political

strategy, or a necessary evil.

To Samford, it is the

absence of students who have chosen to serve their country.

On March 18, 2003, President Bush announced to Americans that the first troops were deployed to Baghdad by his command. Their objectives: to secure

weapons of mass destruction and render Hussein powerless. A year later, with

only one of those goals accomplished, they remain armed in Iraqi villages.

Every eye is open and each step is taken with care as rioting and death tolls

increase by the hour. Their supposed return date? Summer 2004. The proba-

bility of returns? Uncertain. The families and friends of troops and members of

the Samford community can only watch and pray that in the coming months,

soldiers will plant their feet on native soil and a promised homecoming will

become a reality.

# A World Apart

by Maureen Simpson

29

The usual mile markers of time passed - the cap and gown she almost wore, the wedding in which she was expected to play the role of bridesmaid and of course, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Now Jim and Sinikka Smothers measure time by the number of days it will be before their "little girl" arrives home.

Sgt. Mary Smothers, a Samford senior history major, has spent the past year serving in the 214th Military Police Company of the U.S. Army, patrolling the roads of Baghdad in a Humvee and most recently assisting with the training of new Iraqi police officers. "My daughter, the sergeant...not exactly what I imagined," Mr. Smothers said.

She and another member of her company have teamed up with a pair of translators to work with 22 Iraqi cadets, ranging in age from 21 to 38 years old. They are teaching them the basics of self-government and human rights to help the cadets work toward achieving a new democracy in Iraq. Though the students at the police academy have been cooperative with the U.S. military, the insurgents in the country are continuing to slow the peace process.

"Several of the soldiers have said they believe 98 percent of the Iraqis want to cooperate with the coalition," Mr. Smothers said. "Still, two percent of 25 million people leave a lot of people who want to cause trouble."

This constant presence of tension and uncertainty has left the Smothers family even more covetous of the communication they are able to share with Mary overseas. Mr. Smothers recalled the night Mary called to wish him a "Happy Birthday."

"My father was here, my son Michael, Sinikka and myself. We all scattered to find enough phones to share the time with her."

At her current location, Mary calls about once every two weeks and relies more frequently on e-mail. Her accounts of military life, tense days and the emotions of being so far away from home have united the family in a way they never expected.

"Through her journal and exchanging letters, there has been an openness we have not experienced before," Mrs. Smothers said. "There is a new dimension of depth that has been added to our relationship, a new depth of understanding of life."



While Mary's original orders called for her to report for 365 days of service "in country," recent changes leave questions as to when she is expected to return. Her unit first reported for active duty on March 15, 2003, but Mr. Smothers believes the company should be back in the U.S. by June.

Either way, the family already knows what their plan is upon Mary's arrival.

"We will let her rest and give her plenty of room and time to readjust," Mrs. Smothers said. "We're going to have some fun this summer."



# LETTERS HOME:

30

COMPILED BY  
MAUREEN SIMPSON  
& LESLEY JONES

## A SOLDIER'S PERSPECTIVE

The reality of war is not easily projected over television screens and radio broadcasts. However, for many American men and women in the armed forces, it is a way of life. Their fight for survival, peace, and the motivation to understand and communicate with a foreign culture can only justly be told by themselves. Through her letters, Samford student and member of 214th Company of the United States Army Mary Smothers reveals her personal views on the war with Iraq, the value of human life, the triumphs of her service, and the little humors that keep her going.

November 25, 2003

Thoughts on Thanksgiving.

*I am thankful to be alive. I am thankful not to have been involved in any RPG (rocket propelled grenades) or IED (improvised explosive device) attacks or to have had to use my weapon in self-defense. I am thankful that none of the numerous mortar shells that have been fired at our compound have hit our building. I am thankful that the weather has cooled down and we have relief from the 130-degree heat. I am thankful that I can take a shower. And finally, I am thankful that my time here is half done.*

*I try to imagine what I was doing last year at this time, yet it seems like ages ago. I try to imagine what I'd be doing if I were back home now, but I can't even remember what it would feel like. It seems as though we've been away from the "real world" for so long now. My whole concept of time is so different. I used to wish time would slow down, everything always seemed to fly by. But now it's quite the opposite, time just seems to stand still. The days of the week no longer matter, just that each day is one day closer to being home. I have learned so much about so many things here. I continuously reflect on my thoughts about war, politics, and foreign policy, and how they have changed in the past six months. This has been and continues to be a life-changing experience for me and I will never think the same way about any of those issues. I know only good will come from this, for Iraq, and for myself. I am thankful to be here, though some days I wish I were anywhere else.*

Mary Smothers  
Baghdad, Iraq

December 18, 2003

In this particular entry, Smothers shares the feelings surrounding the coming of Christmas, the prospect of an exciting trip to Jordan and the capture of Saddam Hussein.

*I've always said I'd like to spend Christmas in another country - but I never had Iraq in mind. I was thinking of the things I would miss for Christmas this year, and asked other soldiers the same thing. Sgt. Angel Jones said she will miss seeing her nieces' and nephews' faces when they open gifts. Another soldier, Sgt. Schultz, said he will most miss the Christmas tree. He and his wife always go out and cut their own tree. This year, she's not having a tree.*

*We were all ready for a change of pace and excited about spending ten days out of Baghdad. For me, the trip to Jordan is my second, making it especially meaningful. I first came here two years ago with a small group from Samford University to study the history of Jordan. Knowing little about the Middle East, and less about Jordan specifically, I had no idea what to expect. I stepped into a beautiful, peaceful country with a fascinating history. My whole perspective on the Middle East changed immediately. Little did I know then how soon I would be returning to the Middle East for a different kind of experience.*

*On the afternoon of December 14, while we were in class, one of the American instructors came in to make an announcement. "Last night, a group of Delta Force in Kirkuk..." The room fell silent, all of us wondering how the sentence would end. My first thought was there had been yet another mass grave found, an embassy had been attacked, or a bombing had occurred. "...captured El Numero Uno." The room burst into applause and cheering. My heart was racing - so many questions and feelings running through my head. I had believed all along that Saddam was alive and well somewhere in Iraq. I had doubted he would ever be captured. It was a moment we had all been waiting for, for so long.*

*The day was a momentous one in many ways, much like people will never forget where they were when they heard the news on 9/11, neither will we forget this.*

Mary





31

**I KNOW ONLY  
GOOD WILL  
COME FROM  
THIS, FOR  
IRAQ, AND  
FOR MYSELF**

**December 27, 2003**

Smothers comments on her trip to Jordan and the welcome change of pace from Baghdad.

*After Madaba, we went on to the Jordan River Valley. We walked through the valley on a stone pathway with trees and moss all around. I realized how much I missed the serenity of nature and the relaxation gained from a walk in the woods. The air was fresh and it was so peacefully quiet. No sounds of mortars, artillery, or constant buzz of generators.*

*Our last stop was to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth. Across the sea we could see the city of Jericho, the lowest city on earth. Many got in to experience the salty water and the phenomenon of floating. It was a wonderful day, a Christmas gift for all of us.*

Mary

**January 10, 2004**

Smothers writes on training a new police force in Baghdad that is expected to serve the new democracy. She and fellow officers are not only training them in terms of defense and weaponry, but teaching them about the democratic system of government.

*I hope that each student will benefit from what we will teach them. I hope they will each go out into the police force and make a difference in someone's life one day. And I hope that maybe we can be a small part of that.*

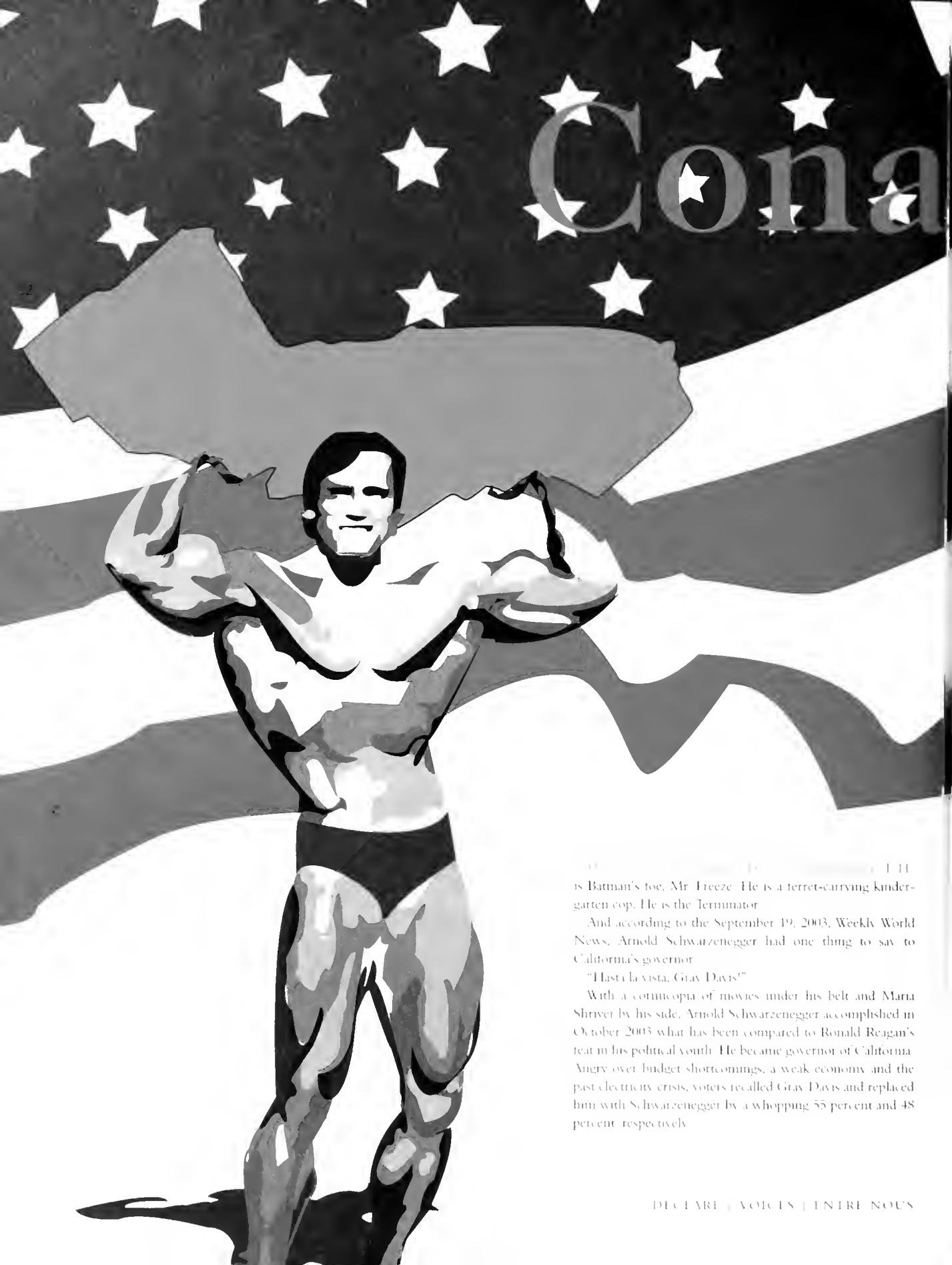
Mary

**January 24, 2004**

*Back to translation, or mistranslation rather, there were many words that came up during weapons' classes that just didn't quite translate. My favorite example was during the Glock class and the discussion of the glow-in-the-dark sights. The instructor said, "There is a small amount of radio-active material in the sights that will make them glow for ten years." However it was translated as, "There is a small live radio in the sights that will work ten years." When we saw one student holding the weapon to his ear, we realized what had happened. The statement was then clarified. I stepped outside to laugh a bit so as not to offend anyone. It felt so good to laugh, we don't do it nearly enough here.*

Mary





is Batman's foe, Mr. Freeze. He is a ferret-carrying kindergarten cop. He is the Terminator.

And according to the September 19, 2003, *Weekly World News*, Arnold Schwarzenegger had one thing to say to California's governor:

"Hasta la vista, Gray Davis!"

With a cornucopia of movies under his belt and Maria Shriver by his side, Arnold Schwarzenegger accomplished in October 2003 what has been compared to Ronald Reagan's feat in his political youth: He became governor of California. Angry over budget shortcomings, a weak economy and the past electricity crisis, voters recalled Gray Davis and replaced him with Schwarzenegger by a whopping 55 percent and 48 percent, respectively.

# In the Governor

By Frank McCormack

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In the months following Schwarzenegger's Oct. 8, 2003, election, the movie icon formulated a plan to save California from its budget woes. Schwarzenegger gathered support from both Democrats and Republicans for his budget plans, known as Propositions 57 and 58, and quickly pushed the packages through the California legislature— a Democratic-dominated legislature at that.

As Schwarzenegger turned his attention to the people of California, he again struck out on the campaign trail. Instead, this time instead of campaigning against Gray Davis, Schwarzenegger welcomed Davis' public support. They appeared on NBC's "Tonight Show" in an effort to secure voter support for the propositions. In the end, Schwarzenegger's bipartisan backing earned approval among voters, who passed both measures.

True to his hero status of many of his films, Schwarzenegger appears to be saving California from once imminent bankruptcy. But what about the other 134 candidates for governor? Who were these candidates that were overshadowed by the likes of Tom McClintock, Cruz Bustamante and Arnold Schwarzenegger?

One very public figure that tossed his undersized hat into the gubernatorial ring was actor Gary Coleman, known best for his TV sitcom "Different Strokes." Coleman said of his bid for governorship, "I am the least-qualified man that might do the best job, if I were really running. But I'd say people first, corporations second. I'd send private citizens and investigators to go get California's \$38 billion back." Coleman received 12,690 votes.

Another potential governor was David "Laughing Horse" Robinson, a Democrat who serves as tribal chairman of the Kawaiisu Tribe of California. Robinson received 5,749 votes in the recall election.

Then there was infamous Larry Flynt, the publisher of "Hustler" magazine. Flynt earned a seventh-place finish with 15,464 votes. During the race, Flynt's answer to California's money problems was to increase gambling in California to allow slot machines in all private casinos.

United Press International's Pat Nason reported some of Flynt's other political stances in his article "Flynt is serious about recall 'circus.'" "You know, a huge drain on California's economy is the illegal immigrants," Flynt said in the article. "We need to close the borders. The people that are here should be allowed to stay, but then we should close the border and send in the National Guard."

Flynt also said he supported a tighter restrictions on pornography producers.

Voters had the chance to elect Angelyne, a California entertainer. Angelyne was registered as an independent, but on her Web site, she claimed to be a member of the "Pink Party." Her Web site offered pictures of both her running mate (the

"True to his hero status of many of his films, Schwarzenegger appears to be saving California from once imminent bankruptcy."

California bear) and Buddha, the Pink Party mascot. Some of Angelyne's ideas for restoring California's economy were as follows:

Σ All the tax money will be used to pay off the bills.

Σ To raise money for immediate use, a room will be decorated in the Capitol building for anyone who wishes to spend the night and get a personal tour of the building hosted by Angelyne for the amount of \$10,000.

Σ The capitol building will be painted hot pink.

Σ There will be no more homeless people in California.

If that excerpt from her political platform seems absurd, so will the fact that Angelyne finished twenty-eighth out of the 135 total candidates. She received 2,262 votes.

It should not be overlooked that Schwarzenegger was facing opponents much more formidable than Angelyne and Laughing Horse. Indeed, Schwarzenegger defeated both Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante and Senator Tom McClintock. However, Schwarzenegger still was awarded over a million votes more than Bustamante.

Of course, only time will reveal Schwarzenegger's true governing abilities. If he continues to surround himself with capable assistants, Schwarzenegger may be able to tell California after the next elections in 2006, "I'll be back."

NO

by: philip swartzfager

TAXATION

**F**ive months after Bob Riley was inaugurated as the governor of Alabama, he made one of the most ambitious political moves of his career. Faced with a major budget shortfall for the state, he chose to push a bold plan to raise taxes and bring accountability measures to the state government. Riley, a Republican who had spent the six previous years in congress voting down tax increases, suddenly proposed a \$1.2 billion tax plan, turning the Alabama political arena upside down.

Riley's plan consisted of 19 different bills linked to one constitutional amendment. Riley received legislative approval to put the measures on the ballot and voters were given a chance to view the entire package.

The plan would have raised state taxes by \$1.1 billion and local taxes by over \$100 million by the time it was fully implemented. It proposed to create the Alabama Excellence Initiative Fund, allowing legislators to aid programs they felt deserved government aid. It also promised to raise the level at which lower income families start paying taxes from just below \$5,000 to \$19,000 and would

have levied a sales tax on cars, boats and labor and mechanical repairs. And perhaps the most controversial arm of the proposal was the probability of an increase of property tax from the current 10-20 percent to 100 percent.

Gov. Riley formed a strong coalition including the powerful Business Council of Alabama, the Alabama Education Association, Alabama A&M and the League of Women Voters. Riley had major endorsements from Democrats and Republicans including four former lieutenant governors. His opponents formed the Tax Accountability Coalition and included the Alabama Forestry Association and the National Federation of Independent Businesses.

Members of Riley's own party fought harshly against his proposal. Marty Connor, the chairman of the Republican party, came out publicly against the plan. Roger McConnell, a former Republican Party chairman, headed up the opposing Tax Accountability Coalition. For five long months, Alabama politics were sent into a dogfight with otherwise opponents joining forces on both sides of

VOTE

VOTE NO

the issue. One of the most interesting developments surrounding the situation occurred when the Christian Coalition of Alabama opposed the plan only to have the leader of the National Christian Coalition to come out in support of the plan.

Bob Riley criss-crossed the state prior to the vote to advocate the tax plan. Opponents brought in Dick Armey, former majority leader of the House of Representatives, to campaign against the bill. Debates were held in many cities, often on network TV. One debate featured Riley debating Bill Armistead, a fellow Republican who ran for lieutenant governor during the 2002 election.

Riley and his supporters argued the only way to avoid a \$600 million deficit was to raise taxes. He urged that the plan would fix Alabama's education woes, and provide tax relief to its poorest citizens. *The Birmingham News* quoted Riley as saying during a debate, "We have to build a world-class education system. If we don't, we will not be competitive in the 21st century."

...the tax plan was heavily defeated... with 66 percent of voters voting against it.

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Opponents to the plan played on voter mistrust of the government and argued that the money was unearmarked, which meant it did not necessarily have to be spent on education. Another concern was that the plan would hurt business and cost jobs.

After all the hype, debate and confusion, the tax plan was heavily defeated on September 9, 2003, with 66 percent of voters voting against it. Some thought the plan was too big and too complex for voters to understand. Others felt it was defeated because of a general mistrust of politicians in Montgomery. In the wake of a major defeat, Riley made a promise to promote accountability and restore trust to the state government. There was one small, but not insignificant, victory for Gov. Riley. He was awarded *Governing Magazine's* Official of the Year award in November of 2003 for his efforts to improve Alabama.

# DUELING FOR THE PRESIDENCY

BY PHILIP SWARTZFAGER

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Among all the words used during the 2004 Democratic presidential race, one word reigned supreme: electability. The question, however, still remained: which candidate had the most of it?

As October 2003 passed and the Democratic primaries loomed on the horizon, John, John, Joe, Dick, Carol, Dennis, Howard, Wesley and Al all competed to see who was most opposed to President George W. Bush. All the while, analysts and media representatives debated which candidate had the best chance of beating the president in November 2004. The strategy was sure to reach the hearts and minds of supporters in each candidate's camp, but how would independent voters react?

At this juncture, each candidate made his case against Bush.

Although many of the candidates condemned Bush for leading the United States into the war with Iraq, it was notable that Edwards, Kerry, Gephardt and Lieberman all supported the bill authorizing the president to take action in Iraq. Wesley Clark couldn't fair much better in the anti-Bush category. In 2001, he praised the president and his foreign policy team, including Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Vice President Dick Cheney and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, for their effective leadership. Since Al Sharpton is so liberal (on the liberality spectrum, he is just slightly to the left of Fidel Castro), he had little chance of winning any of the democratic primaries. He simply served as the comic relief.

That left Vermont Governor Howard Dean as the most logical choice. Vermont was the first state to legalize same-sex civil unions. Dean was also the harshest critic of the President on the war in Iraq. He supported a universal health care plan. He wanted to rescind the Bush

## HERE'S TO STRING OF NAS' TV ADS COME TO A STATIO NEARBY



tax cuts and then raise taxes on the wealthy. At the end of 2003, it looked as if the primaries would be an easy feat for Dean.

By January 2004, however, the cornucopia of presidential hopefuls looked very different. With Sen. Kerry's win in the Iowa caucus, Gov. Dean's 15 minutes of fame were almost over. After Dean delivered his infamous and often replayed barbaric yawp speech, his presidential days were all but gone. The speech was played on CNN more times than Outkast's "Hey-Ya" was played in radioland.

The real surprise was that Sen. Edwards placed second to Kerry's first. Another surprise was that Wesley Clark showed a strong third. This led the country to assume that there would be a competitive race for the Democratic ticket. It seemed like it was a four-man race between Kerry, Dean, Edwards and Clark. That assumption lasted about a week. Dean won the Vermont primary — after he had already dropped out of the race. The media turned to the prospect of a dual between Kerry and Edwards. Key wins were as follows: Clark took Oklahoma, Edwards took his home state of South Carolina and Kerry won every other primary in sight.

By March 2004, Kerry had the Democratic candidacy in his pocket. Kerry won for one reason: electability. The Democrats desperately wanted someone who could stand toe to toe with George W. Bush on national security issues and Vietnam veteran John Kerry was that man.

During primary season, Bush saw his name dragged through the mud and his poll numbers slip below 50 percent as support for Iraq soured. The Bush camp did not remain dormant for long. Soon after Kerry was crowned "King Democrat," the Bush campaign began its attack, taking aim mainly at Kerry's voting record.

The Presidential race for 2004 is shaping up to be the longest, nastiest and most expensive race in recent history. Bush will continue to draw attention to Kerry's voting record in an attempt to paint him as a Massachusetts liberal. Kerry will talk about how Bush ruined the economy by outsourcing America's jobs overseas. Here's to a string of nasty TV ads coming to a station nearby.





While the sight of a granite monument standing about 4 feet tall donning the mosaic tablets of the Ten Commandments would most likely not raise an eyebrow if it was seen on a church lawn, it is quite another matter when the monument is placed in the rotunda of the Alabama Supreme Court building.

The nation turned its eyes to Montgomery to witness a strange and dramatic series of events concerning a 5,300-pound block of stone inscribed with the 10 laws from the Old Testament. The monument was placed in its position by Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore, who did

This was not the first time Moore had raised controversy over the Ten Commandments. In 1995, while Moore was a judge in Etowah County, Ala., a civil liberties union sued to have him remove a wooden plaque of the commandments that was hanging in his courtroom. Moore had carved the plaque by hand. That incident gave him the media nickname the "Ten Commandments Judge" and also led to his appointment on the Alabama Supreme Court, an ironic twist of fate for the plaintiff originally involved in the suit.

The most recent case involving the monument attracted some national media expo-

During the debate leading up to the monument's removal, ardent supporters of Moore from across the country came bearing their own copy of the commandments and crossed the country to protest the court order. Within days, a seemingly mild controversy had blossomed into a spectacle.

Moore was in the center of it all, appearing to relish the experience and looking far more like a Southern Baptist preacher than the Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court.

The monument-removal-turned-Greek-tragedy ended with Moore being removed from his job. Although the federal

so two years earlier without the consultation or permission of any other justice serving on the Alabama Supreme Court. The saga began in August 2003 when a federal court ordered Moore to have the edifice removed, and Moore defiantly refused.

sure, and Moore gained a sizable amount of popularity, particularly among conservative, Christian evangelicals. But despite Moore's popularity with the locals, a federal mandate is a federal mandate. However, Moore refused to comply.

order was maintained and Moore seems to have lost the battle, this event is certainly not the end of Moore's political career or the debate over the role of God in government. According to a survey conducted by CNN,







# R o y r i n *Montgomery*

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Drew Campbell

77 percent of Americans support the displaying of the Ten Commandments on government property. Perhaps Moore's bold move to stand up for his monument is not only a reflection of his own personal beliefs, but also the general consensus of the nation.

According to CNN, Terry Butts, an attorney for Moore, predicts, "He'll be back as a United States senator, or he's back as chief justice because he can run again. Or he'll be back as governor." All of these positions are conceivable for Moore. He seems to have the support necessary to win any political office. Maybe Moore's name will be on the GOP ticket for Alabama governor come 2006 instead of Governor Bob Riley.

Now, many months after the Montgomery media flurry, what were the underlying reasons for it all? Was the judge's ousting due to his personal convictions, or was his political martyrdom a savvy ploy for increased support with an influential core of voting Alabamians? Maybe the question to ask is whether these two reasons are really that different from each other. Bill Pryor, Alabama's Attorney General during the Ten Commandments episode, was in charge of enforcing the federal mandate. Although he was originally in favor of the monument, he believes that Moore overstepped his bounds when he refused to obey the federal order.

President Bush has promoted Pryor since the monument fiasco to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Both Pryor and Moore seem to have benefited from the course of events concerning a block of religious-themed granite outside of a courthouse. Time only will reveal how far Moore will ride the wave caused by his Ten Commandments.



## IF THERE IS ONE THING YOU COULD CHANGE ABOUT SAMFORD, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

- visitation
- that there would be somewhere to hang out on campus...like bowling lanes...just something to do for fun
- The social scene
- A student center
- the parking situation
- the high administration censorship of the Samford Theatre Dept.
- stop being fake and make people face reality BEFORE they are forced to 4 years later
- Bring back the Caf chocolate pudding
- No 8 o'clock classes
- Convo requirements
- Less money spent on landscaping and more on Athletics
- A place where both genders could be welcomed 24 hours
- Roles and expectations of females at Samford—they are definitely 50 years old!
- Give professors more freedom of speech. It's in the Constitution, right?

## WHAT'S THE MOST OVERUSED PHRASE AT SAMFORD?

- DTR
- Miz
- I just put it on my dad's credit card!
- Diversity. People at Samford don't even understand what diversity is.....
- "really"
- "sad"
- "nah-uh"
- "The Bubble" If the Crimson staff ever prints that phrase again, I will scream
- "your mom"
- the word "random"
- Jesus is my boyfriend
- The "Caf" or "shady"
- "When is your white candle?"

## WHAT'S THE MOST RANDOM ROAD TRIP YOU HAVE TAKEN WHILE AT SAMFORD?

- New York City, baby!
- Trip to the 19th annual Flora-Bama Mullet Toss
- A trip to ATL in the middle of the night where I pulled an all-nighter in 30 degree weather outside Phillips Arena waiting for U2 tickets to go on sale in the morning
- Drove to Delta State University for a concert with only 20 minutes of planning
- To Chicago in one day to watch a friend run in the Chicago marathon
- New Orleans in one day
- Driving to Ethel, Louisiana---- population 500
- My boyfriend and I tried to drive to the Grand Canyon over Spring Break 2003. After a series of losing credit cards and car disasters, we had to turn back at Amarillo, TX
- Michigan to go snowboarding/sking for a weekend
- Freshman year, I didn't know how to get to the Galleria. We took an unexpected road trip to Jasper because we missed the Galleria exit

# Testify

TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

OUT OF AFRICA

SPIRITUAL FORMATIONS

FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE

MISSIONARY KID

A TIME OF CHANGE





## To Make Him Known

Saturday, 7 a.m. One by one the members of Ville Crew congregate on the stairs outside of the Campus Safety office. Their enthusiasm is seasoned with service. Their positive attitudes combat the early morning lull as they pile in their cars and head downtown to minister to the inner-city children through play, music and love.

By Brittany Dawkins

"To know God and to make Him known."

With heads bowed and hearts beating, the members of GRACE simultaneously lift their arms to music and in praise to the Lord. "I love being a part of GRACE. I've been dancing since I was 4-years-old, so coming to college and being able to be a part [of this ensemble] has really let me continue to do something that I love," said junior education major Mollie Michel.

Extending beyond their matching hair buns and synchronized ballet moves, GRACE ballet performs on and off campus, sharing their interpretive dance to aid and enhance the worship experience of their audiences. "I also love performing for a good cause. There is no pressure to be the best because we are all up there performing for the same reasons; to glorify God and show his love for us," Michel said.

"To know God and to make Him known."

Their Bibles are open and spread across their laps. With ready ears and willing spirits they listen to an older student share the struggles, joys and blessings in her walk with the Lord. The five freshman girls are currently enduring the difficulties and spiritual battles common to the transition into college and find encouragement in their mentor. Spiritual formation groups and Bibles studies provide a nurturing and edifying atmosphere in which students are emotionally and spiritually strengthened.

"To know God and make Him known."

With muscles aching from intense training and bodies exhausted from hours of physical exertion, three football players ride together to Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). Though their bodies are weak, they are anxious to strengthen their spirits.

"FCA is a time for athletes and non-athletes to come together and worship and encourage each other. It is a time to remember the big picture and why we are here on earth; to glorify God," said senior business finance major Adrian Horstead. FCA shows students how their faith integrates into all aspects of their life, specifically their athletic experiences.

"To know God and make Him known."

Lying on a dock, commenting on the stars and the God who created them, the Word Players team spent hours talking and discovering the intricacies of each others' personalities during their fall kickoff retreat. The Word Players use dramatic or comic skits, mime and testimony to convey the gospel message to their audiences. Junior communication studies major Brian Pavlick said, "Word Players rocks because I do the two things I love the most; acting and sharing the Word."

Time together in fellowship and encouragement is essential for the Word Players so that they are able to portray God's mercy while holding fast to their unifying desire to share the gospel. "Student Ministries has helped keep me focused on why I'm here at Samford ... it's more than to just get an education and make friends. Student Ministries, in general, gives me the chance to know God and His purpose for my life," Pavlick said. "To know God and make Him known."

These organizations are just a few of the opportunities that are provided to Samford students by the Student Ministries program. As the mission statement concludes, "Both individually and corporately, Student Ministries strives to engage heart, mind, soul

and strength in the pursuit of knowing God and making Him known."

As the backbone of Samford's Christian community, Student Ministries exists to aid students in the maturing of their faith. "We're here to facilitate the spiritual development of students, and we strive to make resources available for every student, wherever he or she is," Student Ministries Director April Robinson, said.

Student Ministries has launched a four-year ministry plan that works to comply specifically with the conclusion of the mission statement, helping Samford as a community better submit to Luke 10:27 that says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind."

As Robinson explains in her article for Cry Out, "The Gospel writers understood that we are a fractured people; living our lives in compartments, segregating the secular and the sacred ... And all of Scripture is the account of the journey towards reconciliation, the bringing back together of splintered pieces ... Student Ministries has resolved to be an active part of this journey towards reconciliation."

Each of the next four years will be guided by one of the four emphases mentioned in the verse. Starting with this year's theme of loving the Lord "with all your heart," Student Ministries will guide Samford's community through the spiritual journey as mapped out by the Gospel writer Luke.

Within Student Ministries there is a program for every type of student. Whether a student feels the need to serve off campus, be involved in a small accountability group on campus, go on a summer mission trip, partake in weekly fellowship or participate in a performance group, Student Ministries encourages involvement on any level.

"Our vision is to be co-curricular rather than extra-curricular and to aid students with the integration of their faith and learning," Robinson said.

Working for the spiritual well-being of each individual, Student Ministries utilizes every available resource to guide the student body in their quest of "knowing God and making Him known."

# OUT of Africa

by: Brittany Dawkins

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I peeled off my jacket and slouched in the balcony pew. Prepared for the ordinary, bi-weekly convocation service, I began to peruse the program I was handed at the door. By now, the students were settled in, and the initial chatter had subsided. Roughly midway through my routine scanning of the program, I jumped as the stale air was penetrated by a voice bathed in passion and conviction. "QUIT BEING COMPLACENT!" Startled, I looked around at the students who, one by one, locked their eyes on the speaker, one of their peers, as he continued.

"I have been in the desert without water. I have been chased by wild dogs. I have slept on the beach without blankets or food. I have hiked through the sand dunes, searching for African tribes who need the gospel. Now, I am back in America, back at Samford University. And friends, it is NOW that I am in the wastelands."

Sophomore communications major Nathan Moore challenged Samford's student body by giving them a glimpse of the physical, emotional and spiritual hardships he endured while ministering to Senegal, Africa, last summer.

With body aching and laden with wet, heavy clothes, he trudged through the sand, shouldering his empty water bottle. Through squinted, tired eyes, he saw nothing but sand dunes and the deceiving waves of heat that hovered above and before him. Head throbbing from heat and exhaustion, he fought to prevent the recent recollections of fleeing wild dogs from tormenting his piteous state. He continued to thrash at the constant whirring around his ears. Looking to the horizon he saw the sand dunes part, revealing the skyline of an ancient village. Though the village was within sight, Samba Gue, the native name adopted by Moore, knew there was still an hour or two of sand separating him from the minute civilization. Samba had traveled for at least six hours, and one more seemed implausible. An eternity later, he stumbled into the village, and, as he felt his stability waning, was able to drink deep of the water that the natives drew for him from their well.

Such was a typical day in the journey of Nathan Moore as he ventured into the desert of Senegal, Africa. Moore was commissioned by the International Mission Board last summer, and received support from Samford, friends and family. Before departing for Dakar, Senegal's capital and headquarters for his stay, he parted with all the tangible comforts of his identity. There were no friends to accompany Moore, no Christians to support him, no parents to guide him. The battles that lay ahead were to be fought by him alone with faith as his only comfort.

Away from America and the routine programs of the church, Moore's vision of God's will for His servants became clear. "So often, we Americans focus more on what we are doing for Christ than on Christ Himself. . . and I'm so thankful that I actually tasted what it is like to truly be a disciple of Christ."

Emulating the disciples of the New Testament, Moore followed the call he believed had been on his life since childhood. He embarked on a journey searching for African tribes in need of the gospel and was sent to seek out "Lebou" people, a tribe known as fishermen.



"I had no crutches. Only Christ," he said. "There was nothing else available for me to use as my identity. I had no relationships to depend on, no translator, no leader, sometimes no food and no water. All I had was my love for the Lebou people and the knowledge that I must follow my calling."

Moore did follow, and reaped many physical accomplishments including discovering seven villages through his desert exploration, sharing the "Jesus Film" with a tribe of 60 adults and 60 children and fielding the marriage proposals of many tribal leaders who had grown to love "Samba" (Moore) and wanted him to be a husband to their daughters. "Samba" read the Bible from beginning to end endured 33 days of sickness out of the 71 that he was in Africa.

Greater than the physical achievements to Moore was the newfound philosophy he brought back to Samford. "Living in the presence of evil, with Christ as your shield, is the only way to live. This is how I existed in Africa, and this is how we should live in America."

The journey in Africa lasted 71 days, but the implication of his experiences, and the ensuing personal and global revelations were just beginning upon his return home.

"Even though not one moment of the trip was 'fun,' and never once did it feel like a vacation or an escape, it was re-adjusting to the states that was the hardest part of my journey," Moore said. "I saw the same evil here in America that I had battled in Africa, but in a different form. Here we satisfy ourselves with everything but Christ. We are blessed with so much, yet we are not



willing to admit that we are starving for more than what we have, and we will not quit looking for that satisfaction in places other than Christ."

While in Africa, Moore's primary desire was for spiritual fulfillment and sharing the means of this fulfillment with the people of Senegal. It became increasingly difficult to depart for the States knowing that he left behind him people who were awakened to their innate hunger for the bread of life.

"I had to die to myself daily in Africa. We should die daily in America too...die daily, and live solely for the sake of Christ."

Spiritual formation is a phrase heard more often on Samford's campus thanks to Brian Pitts. As head of spiritual formation, his job is to show students the impact that faith has on their lives.

Pitts, a Samford graduate and native of Wewahatchee, Florida, holds a Master of Divinity degree from Beeson Divinity School. Before coming on staff at Samford, Pitts worked as a global missions team leader for Birmingham Baptist Association, video director for Student Life camps and also worked for Impact Family Counseling.

Pitts enjoyed his job as video director, and he runs his own video production company. However he said, "I'm much more wired to interact with people." Pitts spent two years volunteering with Student Ministries, leading small groups and going on mission trips. He knew he wanted to go into college ministry, so, when a position at Samford opened up in January 2003, he applied and began working in August.

What makes Pitts' job as head of spiritual formation so exciting is its novelty, never before being held by anyone. "It's up to me to create things," he said.

So what exactly is spiritual formation? Pitts said it is, "the act of seeking to become more Christ-like and becoming more sensitive to the Spirit's moving in your life."

He said that we all undergo spiritual formation in one way or another.

There is no typical day for Pitts, but a large part of it is spent with students. They talk about what they are going through and how their faith impacts their lives. His spiritual formation group goes through a workbook that discusses five different ways to share one's faith. The students do experiments, then come back to discuss them.

Pitts hopes that spiritual formation will impact the lives of students long after they leave the Samford bubble. When a student graduates, Pitts hopes that at a minimum, "they will have been exposed to the possibility of how their faith can impact and change their lives."

Pitts wants students to have a good understanding of how faith is not to be compartmentalized. Pitts says, "Through spiritual formation I want to create spaces for students where they can consider themes of their lives, how faith intercepts those themes and how God works in their lives."



# Spiritual Formation

by: Ashley L. Cox

# From a Different Angle

Aaron Little

For most of us, Friday night means the anticipation of a time to release and relax, whether it be at a party, on the town, or more commonly, on the couch catching television reruns. For sophomore Karen Lesser, Friday night is about meeting with the God of the Ages.

Lesser, along with about 60 or 70 other Messianic Jews in the Birmingham area, meet regularly on Friday nights at Beth El Shaddai Messianic Synagogue. They meet to worship God and not just God the Father, but "Yeshua Ha Mashiach" (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit - the Triune God. While this may sound like a nouveau religion, this doctrine of belief is as old as the New Testament itself. In fact, even the apostle Paul could be considered a Messianic Jew due to his Jewish heritage and his firm belief in Jesus as the Messiah, though formal recognition of this sect of Judaism did not come until more recently in the twentieth century.

Other Jewish sects have displayed strong resistance up until now. So strong in fact that many Messianic Jews have been excommunicated from their more traditional Jewish brothers and sisters throughout the world. The most severe treatment has come from the Jewish homeland, Israel, where Messianic Judaism is illegal. These excommunicators include Orthodox, Conservative and the more liberal Reformed Jews, all of which have a more traditional Judaic belief system that rejects Jesus is the Messiah. They recognize Christ as merely a good prophet and continue today to anticipate the Messiah that Christians and Messianic Jews recognize as Jesus Christ. It is in this tradition, under the Old Covenant, that Lesser's family draws its Jewish roots, namely that of the Reformed tradition.

Despite her family background, Lesser's father became a Christian as a young man when a friend shared knowledge of Jesus' divinity with him. As Lesser's father struggled through a new theology, his family was dispiriting. However, it was through their discouragement that he realized his new faith in Jesus Christ took much less convincing than his adherence to a family tradition of Reformed Judaism.

Shortly after his conversion, Lesser's father married a Christian woman with a Southern Baptist heritage. The pair found peace in a unique, but healthy blend of traditions with Christ as the cornerstone.

When Lesser finally entered the picture, life had become a collage of matzoh bread and Christmas presents. At home, she celebrated the Passover Seder, while the Christmas holiday was spent in the company of her mother's Southern Baptist parents.

Aside from Friday night synagogue (and sleeping in on Sunday morning), Lesser keeps a kosher diet as it is described in Old Testament law. This includes abstinence from pigs, birds of prey, most seafood and insects, with the exception of locusts and grasshoppers. She also practices Jewish holidays such as Purim, Chanukah and feasts like that of

Tabernacles and Unleavened Bread. Lesser trained for two years from ages 11 to 13 in preparation for her Bat Mitzvah, which is a Jewish rite of passage into adulthood and a transition into spiritual responsibility to honor the commandments of God.

Despite her unique background, Lesser is as representative of Samford as any other student. She is a human development family studies major aspiring towards a masters degree in marriage and family therapy, a resident assistant in Vail Hall and a regular attendant of a weekly Bible study.

Though her tradition may put her in a minority here at Samford, Lesser is thankful for the hospitality she has received. She is also entertained by the intrigue of her professors and is extremely welcoming of questions and discussion. "My Jewish roots give me a unique perspective on Jesus Christ," Lesser said.

So next time you see Lesser around, whether it be on campus, Wednesday night at UCF or around town, share in the fellowship of the Triune God and benefit from the knowledge of a tradition that embraces the roots of the people into which our Jewish Messiah, Jesus Christ, was born; the ethos in which He lived, died and was resurrected to fulfill his purpose of salvation to all those who call on His name.



# MISSIONARY KID

CROSSING CULTURES

It wasn't hard for Melissa Jones to stand out on a 35-mile island where she and her brother were the only Americans and two of the only Christians in a high school of 1,700 French-speaking students.

Sent by the International Mission Board in 1996, the Jones family moved to Reunion Island, located in the middle of the Indian Ocean. The family's life has always revolved around ministry, but their mission on Reunion was to establish the first Protestant church on the West Coast of the island.

Sophomore secondary education major Jones was 12 when she moved from the family's home in Florida to France for a year of language study. The following five and a half years of her life were spent on the island with her family whose goal was to establish Reunion's first Protestant church.

"Most everyone on Reunion Island claims to be Catholic," Jones said, "but they aren't devoted to the religion. It's similar to how there are a lot of cultural Christians here in the states."

Because of the strong Catholicism of the islanders, Jones said the word "Baptist" is associated with the term "cult." Therefore, the people who met for church on Sundays in the Jones' home were courageous people who truly wanted to be there. That was refreshing for Jones who said whereas churches in America are run more like businesses, the church in her home was run like a family.

The experience on the island was beneficial to Jones' relationship with Christ. "On Reunion Island, I didn't have the influence of nominal cultural Christians and their value system of do's and don'ts," she said. "I had the example of my parents, and I had the Bible on which I based my actions and life."

The fact that Jones is an American made her stand out in ways that opened doors for her faith. "I was different but had comfort in it," Jones said. "People knew I was American, which led to discussions about religion, but they were people always open to hearing about my beliefs. I was constantly aware that I am an ambassador of Christ."

Jones looks forward to returning home and seeing the growth of the church and the gospel on the island this summer. She is planning to take a six to eight member team of Samford students with her for a mission trip to Reunion Island for the first two weeks of her stay.

When Jones came to Samford, she realized she no longer stood out as she did on Reunion Island. "On the island," Jones said, "I was one of the few who knew the Bible, so I was a teacher. Here everyone knows what I know." Although her practice of faith hasn't changed much since the transition from Reunion, it has given her ideas to consider and has strengthened that which she already knows.

# A Time of Cl

By Scott Feldman

**"June 5, 2004 (9 a.m.) – I'm sitting in the airport terminal, peering out the window at the jumbo jets and commuter props lined up in staggered order, awaiting their journeys to the four winds. It still seems wild that I'm here – going to Belize... God, take my fears and anxieties and give me rest. Accomplish your will through me this summer and for the rest of my days. Please do not allow me to return as the same person I was when I left. To God be the glory - now and forevermore. Amen**

"June 5, 2004 (9:30 p.m.) – It is so hot. I feel like I'm baking to death in this bus, and I can't escape the heat. Other than the outrageous heat and humidity, Belize is great. My first dinner here consisted of pretzels and Vienna sausages from a gas station. I just want to fall asleep and not feel hot."

Such was the beginning of my 11-week journey toward the interior of the former British Honduras. It was a time of challenge and of joy, exhaustion and rest, discomfort and peace. Most of all, it was a time of change.

Spread across the verdant foothills of the Mayan Mountains, San Jose village might as well have existed on another planet. The only traces of America were the bottles of Coca-Cola chilled at the local "store," thanks to a gas-powered generator. Standing one inch less than six feet, I was a giant among the Mayan people, especially the children who would come to my mission's weekly Bible schools.

Home was a thatch hut- a welcome refuge from the driving torrents of the rainy season. Buckets were showers, and streams were laundromats; books were entertainment.

Life became clear in its simplicity.

Tasks that once took minutes or seconds now took hours. Sudden storms thrust hanging clothes into extra rinse cycles. Food didn't prepare itself, and elbow grease was the only dishwasher available. Horses needed watering, and water needed pumping.

On the other hand, tasks that once took days or weeks now took hours. Footlockers became libraries as Coleman chairs became sofas. Journaling transformed from the record of the day to its analysis. The true education had begun.

The fog of American "life" dissipated slowly upon arrival with an initial struggle. For two weeks I was unable to dispel the compulsion to constantly be doing something. After completing anything, whether it be chores, studying or even a conversation, my mind raced to find something else to do. When faced with the prospect of simply relaxing, I drew upon the two things I knew and had served for so long: activity and productivity. Nike-sloganed blood pulsed through my veins.

Removed from the haze of traffic jams, deadlines and cell phone operandi, I saw America for what it is: busy. We have more time-saving technologies than any nation in the world, and yet we struggle to "find" enough time to spend with our friends and families. As Neil Postman said, time rules us. Even worse, we dare not face the prospect of a free afternoon or evening because we would face something much more bewildering and threatening than all the busyness in the

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They screened me for SARS, The  
The road was open. We

HOW MANY CONVOS DID YOU SAVE UNTIL YOUR SENIOR YEAR?

- 0--- got them done early so I wouldn't have to go my Senior year
- 1
- half of them
- 10
- 63... I love a challenge!
- 75%
- 0--- nursing is great!!!
- About a third of them... whoops!
- 58
- too many

WHAT ORGANIZATION/ACTIVITY DO YOU WISH YOU HAD TAKEN PART IN?

- Intertube water polo
- Student Ministries
- Habitat for Humanity
- Step Sing
- SGA
- The Crimson Staff
- Black Heritage
- FCA
- Samford Ambassadors
- Writing for a Samford publication
- Ville Crew
- Sig Ep
- Greek life

WHAT'S THE TITLE OF YOUR SENIOR THESIS?

- Anthony Giddens's Theory of Structuration
- Post-materialist Values as Indicators of Public Opinion in the European Union
- The Impact of Secular Media on Religion
- Prevalence of eating disorders and distorted body image in college aged women
- The removal of Women's images from advertisements in Good Housekeeping between 1955 and 1995
- Lurking in the Shadows: The origin of Penumbra! Rights
- Political Implications of "Martin Fierro"
- A review of telomeres and their critical role in suppressing and facilitating carcinogenesis
- "Un análisis literario de 'La casa de Bernarda Alba'"
- Phytoestrogens and Phytosterols: Their role in Breast Tissue and Human Health
- Advertising Senior project FLAUSA... Everyone go to Florida!

pledge

\_\_\_\_\_ A SLIGHT DELAY

\_\_\_\_\_ SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES

\_\_\_\_\_ PI KAPPA FRIGHT

\_\_\_\_\_ PARTIES OF THE YEAR

\_\_\_\_\_ GREEK WEEKEND

\_\_\_\_\_ FRAT GONE {WRONG}



The front page of The Crimson featured a picture of me glaring at Dr. Franklin as I sat in the crowded room with my arms firmly crossed. There was a storm brewing between the administration and the Greeks, and it was sure to become one of the biggest stories of the semester.

During the 1996-1997 school year, Dr. Steven Chew of the psychology department conducted a study on the Greek recruitment system, in which sorority recruitment was traditionally held during the first week of classes and fraternity recruitment began approximately the third or fourth week of school. He presented his findings to Dean of Students, Dr. Richard Franklin. Based on this information, as well as input from faculty and staff, Dr. Franklin began considering alternatives to the process.

In the fall of 2002, rumors of the possible change in the Greek recruitment schedule solidified. With little input from the student-body, the administration made an executive decision to delay fraternity and sorority recruitment in 2003, due to concerns from parents as well as faculty members. The Greek community, however, refused to accept the decision without a fight.

Organizations banded together to plan their attack at a meeting of chapter presidents, Panhellenic and Interfraternity Council members.

"We'll all write letters," piped one voice from the back of the room.

"No, we'll get our parents to write letters," yelled another. The ideas were rampant.

"Let's attach banners to our homecoming floats in protest."

"Yeah, and while we're at it, we should demand our right to MTV!"

"Everybody boycott Step Sing!"

Was this going too far?

Regardless of the constant threats, Franklin didn't sway from his resolution. As the days rolled by, professors, independents, administrators and even many Greeks grew weary of

the whining that boomed from West Campus. In an attempt to appease some of the tension, Dr. Franklin and Greek Advisor Frank Parsons, met with organizations to establish some understanding and to compromise. The final decision was not what Greeks hoped for, but the issue was settled - sorority recruitment would be delayed until the fourth week of fall classes and fraternity rush would immediately follow.

Inevitably, the reconstruction of recruitment had a long list of problems. Though a bit hazy, there was a whole new set of rules to follow. Letters could be worn only when specified, and Greeks could "casually" talk to perspective members, as opposed to the formal silence method employed in years past. For Greek women, recruitment would be three days long instead of four, and parties would

be shorter than in years past.

For the fraternities, the

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These changes were to be met with a positive attitude in order to maintain proper relations between organizations. By March of 2003, plans were in place for the new schedule. Now it was just a matter of waiting for the new school year to arrive.

On the evening of August 17, 2003, all was well on Samford's quad. Good food, loud music and great company were the ingredients for the annual "Dinner on the Dirt." This year, however, things were a bit different due to the delayed recruitment schedule. Whereas conversation between Greeks and potential members is usually prohibited, this year it was casually limited in an attempt to make the first event of the year more comfortable for the freshmen.

The initial weeks of school seemed pretty normal for students and faculty. While freshmen were encouraged to get involved

in campus activities, Greek women were busy practicing for their big production: recruitment. Greek men strategically planned the upcoming intramural season while preparing for Rush on the side. Panhellenic and the IFC designed activities to promote the entire Greek system during the month of September. Samford soccer games and home football games became "standing room only" events as Greeks adorned themselves with buttons and waved signs in support of their Bulldogs.

Perspective members also made some adjustments. In years past, the pressure to make a good first impression only lasted a few short days. This year, those embarking into the world of fraternities and sororities felt those demands for an entire month. Freshman Deana Stailes remembers the nerve-racking anticipation she felt for the first four weeks of her college career. "The process was

very intimidating. I felt very disconnected from the rest of the student body, particularly the older girls," she said.

As freshmen prepared for recruitment, competition ran high among Greek organizations and projected damage to sorority and fraternity relations became a reality. "Four weeks is a long time to wait. There is no doubt there was tension, and even months later the dust is just starting to settle," said Parsons. "The strain on relationships between organizations will cause [Panhellenic and IFC] to work harder in the spring to ensure an all-around success in the fall."

By the end of the 2003 recruitment weeks, new members, Greeks, Panhellenic and the IFC were ready to breathe a sigh of relief. The intensity of recruitment had reached its end.

Or so they thought.

Petitions, surveys and protests reared their ugly heads once more, and a sea of academic concerns

flooded Dr. Parson's office. Opinions about the delay evolved from strong dissent to an even split of likes and dislikes after Panhellenic and IFC gathered evaluations from Greek members. The assessment of freshman who participated in recruitment showed that most favored the new system.

Those who still oppose the modifications of the recruitment process will have to grin and bear it for the next couple of years. "The delay will be in effect through 2005. Panhellenic and IFC will discuss the format of recruitment," said Parsons. "We're going to get creative and try to establish more of the Greek weekend-type atmosphere before recruitment."

The Greek system may have felt the blow of last fall's new schedule, but the community can rest assured that next year's recruitment promises to be smoother and more beneficial for everyone involved.

# delay

by Kate McCormick

I stood in line, palms sweating, heart racing. The windowpanes shuddered as the pounding on the doors grew louder every second. High-pitched shrills filled the sorority quad with excitement and me with nervous jitters. I looked to the front of the line and then to the back, scanning the faces in search of some comfort.

I found none.

Flooded by feelings of insecurity, I began doubting my decision.

"What are you doing?" I thought to myself.

Though I was definitely out of my comfort zone, I wasn't going to quit. I had made my decision and I was going to give it my all. Pushing my fears aside, I recovered whatever confidence I could find, inhaled one last breath mint, applied a final layer of lip-gloss and plastered on my best smile. My level of anxiety was off the charts, but with good reason. After all, going through rush as a senior in college is practically unheard of.

"Ten, nine, eight, seven..." The countdown had begun. I put away my purse, tugged at my skirt and adjusted my hair. "Five, four, three, two, one!" The door flung open and I marched in-line behind a herd of freshmen girls as we entered the first sorority house of the night.

As I walked past the sisters, I imagined I might hear a snicker or two, perhaps a joke here and there. I knew the odds were against me, so I had set myself up for some subtle criticism. Yet in each house I was greeted, not with attitude or judgment, but with warmth and comfort. For a fleeting moment, I felt as though I belonged.

The main topic of conversation each night revolved around my decision to go through rush as a

a few friendships and 17 hours of classes was enough.

The familiarity of my comfort zone had served me well up until my junior year. At that point I became frustrated and confused. I began doubting my decisions, my relationships and even myself. So, I decided I needed to be on my own for a while, figure out the person I was becoming. Needless to say, these changes led to my desire to go through sorority recruitment.

I felt like I had missed out on an opportunity to develop some really awesome friendships. I wanted to look back on my college career at Samford without any regrets. So I gave it a shot and I tried my best.

I made it through the first round of cuts.

On the morning of the second round of cuts, I heard the dreadful knock on the door. It was my Rho Gamma delivering the news that I had been cut from the recruitment process.

Initially, I was, of course, disappointed, but deep down I had known this was the most likely outcome.

Though things didn't turn out quite how I had

hoped, I was grateful to have had the experience. By going through the process, I was able to meet some great girls, some from my rush group and others from different sororities.

I had accomplished my goal. I had finally broken away from my comfort zone.

Of all the lessons learned over the past four years, the most important came from this endeavor. By taking risks, we create our own experiences. The college career is full of opportunities. You just have to take them.

by Jennifer Gunter

# SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES



senior. Just as I suspected, everyone was curious about my intentions. But they were not ill intentions. Perhaps they were just three years too late.

During my freshman year I was unconcerned with the social scene – a complete 180-degree turn from high school, where I was involved in a number of clubs and sports teams. I came to Samford with a boyfriend and a roommate from home. Like many other freshman girls, I was either spending free time with my boyfriend, clinging to my roommate, adjusting to classes or dealing with the consistent pangs of homesickness.

Change is usually good, but it's not always easy. That first semester I refused to step out of my comfort zone. I thought juggling a boyfriend,



The month of October brings beautiful the transformation of summer greens to the brilliant oranges and reds of the fall, the smell of freshly baked pumpkin pie and the sticky taste of candy corn. Perhaps the most exciting time of the season is the approach of Halloween.

My family always got a kick out of the end of October. Every year, our house was decorated with carved pumpkins and bowls of assorted candy. An original costume was essential and trick-or-treating, the highlight of the evening, was a race for the biggest bag of goodies. Those days are over now. I have grown older and immersed myself into a busy college schedule. Halloween isn't as fun as it used to be, but this past year proved to be one of the most adventurous and rewarding ones of my life.

In October of 2003, I got to experience a new side of Halloween -- one that I never thought I would. Following a cry for help from Kid One Transport System, a local non-profit organization, my Pi Kappa Phi fraternity brothers and I took on the task of making this a holiday to remember.

What could a fraternity of college guys do to help make Halloween special? A 30-minute journey to the little town of Leeds, Ala., will answer the question. This is where we lent an extra head -- I mean hand.

What is it about a small town that's so creepy? Leeds has one building that comes alive each October and brings with it enough fear to last the entire year. Within the walls of The Atrox Factory horror is unleashed upon hundreds of brave guests who come from all over the state for the experience.

At The Atrox Factory, even the workers label it a spook. Little did I know that this heart-stopping, terror-inflicted house would give each of us stories to tell as we helped create the madness of "Atrox" during September and October of 2003.

"We spent one night pulling nails out of boards to get them ready for the chainsaw scene; it was not what

I was expecting to do but it was fun nonetheless," fraternity member Nick Burghardt said. That was just the first stage of transforming an old factory into one of the premiere haunted houses in the South. After the stage was complete, the brothers traded their hammers for masks.

As customers lined the building in anticipation for their tour of terror, my brothers and I hid around the corners, jumped from

behind props and cranked our chainsaws in an attempt to give the participants an unforgettable scene.

"The Atrox Factory was something more than I had anticipated," said a former fraternity member, Ryan Mast. "I would like to do it again next year. It was also great knowing that all of the money we earned went to Kid One." After

weeks of hard work, Pi Kappa Phi helped donate \$10,000 to Kid One.

The unique experience between Pi Kappa Phi and Kid One Transport System developed a new hope for children and their families. For a year, the fraternity hoped to earn money to help kids get on the road toward better health. If the money was going behind a mask or running after them with a chainsaw, count me in.



PI KAPPA

ERIC

By : Stephanie Hoover

# PARTIES *of the* YEAR

## ZTA Paints the Town

Members of the Zeta Tau Alpha sorority and their dates arrived at the Shades Mountain YMCA dressed to get messy.

In the parking lot, tubs of paint and brushes lay waiting. Inside, the DJ was hard at work and black lights illuminated the neon paint and the "glow in the dark" signs that hung from the track above.

"The paint party was definitely my favorite party because it was a laid back atmosphere combined with high-energy and fun," Meredith Upton of Zeta Tau Alpha said.

Neon silly string and painted faces brought laughter and a unique change to the typical party scene. The night was an inexpensive alternative to more formal parties...with just as much excitement!

## Chi Omega Hits Hot Lanta

The members of Chi Omega experienced the fast-paced, high style of Atlanta face-to-face with a night bursting with posh attire, leopard print décor, 300 college students, sushi and a trendy, free-styling DJ.

The evening began in Midtown on the open balconies of Cherry, a hip new restaurant. After indulging in samples from the sushi bar and American comfort food with a global twist, everyone headed to the dance floor at the neighboring fur-flared nightclub, the Leopard Lounge.

Eventually the night came to a close and the sisters of Chi Omega said their goodbyes to the sleepless city of Atlanta. "Needless to say, Atlanta spoiled me with an affair of high-class and style that will be hard to outdo," said Chi Omega social chair Kate St. Clair.

## Alpha Delta Pi: A Sassy, Classy Affair

The sisters of Alpha Delta Pi enjoyed an exquisite evening at the first ever Black and White Formal. The tables were decorated with black and white photos and the dance floor was filled with dates in crisp tuxes twirling sisters adorned in black and white formal gowns to the sounds of swing.

"Some sisters and their dates were a little nervous about knowing how to swing dance before the party, but once everyone arrived and saw the great atmosphere and heard the music, you couldn't get anyone off the dance floor!" Ashley Bruce said. The band, complete with horns and a vintage microphone, played well into the night, keeping everyone on their toes. Alpha Delta Pi's Black and White formal was not only a first, but one of the finest social events of the year.

## AOPi: Tradition with a Twist

Alpha Omicron-Pi carries on a great tradition with new twists for the annual Pledge Bash. Each year the party takes on a totally different theme, voted on by the new pledge class at the inaugural party. In 2003, the sisters of AOPi welcomed and celebrated their pledges with a Forties Party at Vestavia Lodge in Birmingham. Donned in their best "swing era" costumes, the girls and their dates packed the dance floor.

"I always look forward to a creatively themed pledge bash," Jennifer Clapp said. "This year's was the best yet!"

## Delta Zeta: A Rain or Shine Good Time!

Not even a little rain in the forecast could stop the sisters of Delta Zeta from enjoying their "Forties-style" party atop the Redmont Hotel in downtown Birmingham. "I was a little nervous the week of the party because it poured every single day," Laura Wallace of Delta Zeta said. Luckily the weather was cooperative, giving the sisters of Delta Zeta a wonderfully warm, sunny day and beautiful evening for the party.

The sisters and their dates walked onto the rooftop feeling a fabulous breeze and anticipation for the exciting night ahead. The music set the tone as everyone danced under a clear sky filled with stars. "I had the time of my life. Everything was so beautiful with the lights and the music," said Stasha Duck. "It was definitely the most memorable social event I've experienced in Delta Zeta."

## Phi Mu: GI Joe - Barbie's Real American Hero

From the costumes, the atmosphere and the company, Phi Mu's GI Joe- Barbie's Real American Hero party was a night to remember! The guys were decked-out in camo, trying their best to embody the "GI Joe" look. Each of the sisters dressed-up as the Barbie of their choice - Cheerleader Barbie, Workout Barbie, Christmas Barbie, Parisian Barbie. No category was left without representation. The atmosphere of the party was relaxing and energetic at the same time. While some sisters and their dates let loose on the dance floor with music provided by a 107.7 DJ, others played pool, foosball, and enjoyed several big screen TVs in the sports bar-like atmosphere. "Between the environment and the elaborate costumes, it made for a comfortable and fun party," Mandi Riggsby of Phi Mu said.

The GI Joe-Barbie's Real American Hero party was creative, amusing and undoubtedly a huge success.



by Haley Grubbs

# greek weekend

Greek life at Samford is usually marked by healthy competition—wearing letters, trying to hold the best event, making sure the presence of each organization is known on campus.

This rivalry was never felt more clearly than during the weeks preceding fall recruitment. Tensions between individual organizations as well as between Independents and the Greeks ran high. In the midst of this competition, Samford's Panhellenic and Intra-Fraternity Councils, with backing from the Student Government Association, held Greek Weekend—two days of events designed to encourage unity not only within the Greek community but also for the campus as a whole.

The weekend started out with a band party and ended with a student-led worship service on the morning. All Samford students were invited to the events.

Although it faced stiff competition from big SEC football games, Samford's band party on the quad attracted hundreds of students. The party featured Reckless, a Southern rock band out of Nashville, which played music ranging from 80's rock to traditional country. Members of every Greek organization, Independents, and freshmen danced side-by-side and enjoyed the music and free food.

The next morning over 300 students filled Reid Chapel as the stirring sounds of "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," sung a cappella by Pi Kappa Phi Chad Hunsberger, filled the room. The service also featured Pi Kappa Phi's Brian Cook leading the congregation in worship.

Alpha Delta Pi Amanda Hambrick and Sigma Nu Rob Shaw spoke about the heart of Christianity. Jason Black, associate minister of youth at Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, closed the service by speaking about maintaining a focus on Christ as a college student.

Director of Greek Life and Student Involvement Dr. Frank Parsons said, "I saw the student-led worship service as the highlight of the weekend. It revealed what was common to all the Greek organizations: community, spirituality, service, friendship. They may all wear different letters, but all of these students

have these important things in common." September's event marked the return of Greek Week after a five-year absence. In years past, competition has been the main focus of the events. However, this year's "weekend" was designed to bring students together.

"This year was a great success. It was good just to bring Greek Week back after so long, and this year offered a good starting point for bringing back the tradition. I really saw it bring people together," Parsons said. "That effort at unity was the feature that most distinguished this year's events from others in the past." Panhellenic Council president Sarah Titrud agreed, "The best thing about this year's Greek Weekend was that it was extended to the whole campus. The Greek system had a chance to show itself as a true campus organization instead of a completely separate sphere. I hope that in the future we will be able to publicize events even more, so that Greek Weekend will be even more of an occasion for people across the entire campus to get together."

Greek organizations at Samford have a great tradition of supporting one another's philanthropy events throughout the year, but this year's Greek Weekend presented a unique opportunity for all the organizations to come together for relaxation and worship.

Organizations are hopeful that in the future, Greek Week can be a time not only to bring students within Samford together, but also to bring Samford together with the surrounding community. Connecting with Birmingham is a goal for many Samford organizations and Panhellenic and IFC are no exception. They aim to develop more interaction between groups and support different philanthropic efforts.

"I have high expectations for next year. I would really like to see the weekend expand into a week. We have a lot we can add, especially an emphasis on community service and getting more people involved," Parsons said.

Much of Samford life is built around traditions, and Greek Weekend has the potential to stand alongside the most venerable of them. All signs point to continuing the tradition of the Greek Week/Weekend for many years to come.



# FRATERNITY GONE

[WRONG] By  
Jordan  
Sowards

It was an organization whose president was once Bobby Bowden. Dean Richard Franklin remembers the group for their "memorable Step Sing shows." Dr. Dennis Sansom remembers them as having some "real sharp guys" involved. Nevertheless, over a period of just a few short years, Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity quickly and surely wore out its welcome at Samford University.

The house on Shelbourne Lane now occupied by the Air Force ROTC program, was once home to one of the nation's strongest and most notorious Greek organizations. What most of the current undergraduate population doesn't know is that the "Pikes" were actually a staple of the Greek system at Samford for several decades, and enjoyed strong membership and participation during its tenure at the University.

The rowdy national reputation of the Pikes and recruits who expected four years of non-stop partying could have been a factor in the collapse of Samford's chapter in the mid-nineties. The first sign of trouble for the chapter came with the extending of bids to a pledge class that Sansom (an alumni initiate who attended all chapter meetings), cautioned might largely be inconsistent with the values and practices of the chapter. Sansom's fears were confirmed when the new pledge class immediately began having problems with alcohol and sundry forms of disorderly conduct.

The next year's recruitment period only proved more troublesome when the newly initiated members wielded their voting power to admit yet another "problem class" of members. The first landmark incident on the road to ruin for Pi Kappa Alpha came when the chapter took an overnight trip to Florida for a formal. With no supervision on the trip, alcohol consumption, and the report that one trustee's daughter pressured to share a hotel room with her date, the Pikes single-handedly brought about the establishment of a "No Overnight Trips" rule for future Greeks at Samford. They also disqualified themselves from participating in recruitment and taking a new pledge class the following year.

At the instruction of the University, there was a group of alumni designated to oversee the chapter. Their aim was to rope in some of the wayward members who seemed to be dragging the chapter down. The members of this alumni board were nothing short of stunned when Dean

Franklin received a call from a local park ranger regarding a weekend cabin rented under the name of the president of Pi Kappa Alpha. The cabin was trashed, littered with beer cans left over from a "pledge drinking ritual" that had been supervised by the president, vice president and new member educator.

Dean Franklin had all but made the decision to shut down the chapter when the alumni board stepped in and begged for what was to be their final chance. Franklin issued the chapter's last warning, and put the alumni board in charge of rearing the pledge class and shepherding the brothers.

It was only a matter of time before the chapter had completely exhausted the patience and graciousness of the alumni and administration. Pi Kappa Alpha's troubles were finally brought to a head one night during a party at one of the member's houses off campus. A drunken brawl broke out between some of the brothers and some non-members. Before the weekend was out, Dr. Sansom caught wind of the incident and finally threw up his hands. Sansom wanted to close the house, but by Monday, Dean Franklin had beat him to it.

The Pike house was shut down, and the chapter was classified as dormant. The handed down ruling was that after four years the chapter could potentially be re-activated, but in 1999 when Dr. Sansom contacted other members of the alumni board, no one was interested. None of the alumni wanted to invite that kind of nightmarish headache back into their lives and the house was soon put up for sale.

The story of Pi Kappa Alpha reads like a dossier of a student organization with a death wish. However, the Pikes haven't been the only group to shoot themselves in the proverbial foot. At the turn of the last decade, another house on Shelbourne Lane stood unoccupied, with its doors and windows boarded shut. Pi Kappa Phi lost its charter due to problems with alcohol and hazing, but regained their active status nine months later.

In 1996, Sigma Nu was reported for a case of physical hazing, and were it not for a "tremendous show of support" by chapter alumni, would have faced similar ramifications felt by the Pikes. They were on probation for two years after the alleged incident.

There is no magic formula by which a Greek organization gains favor with the administration. Relationships are fragile and easily strained by any signs of misconduct. For an incomplete list of straws (for easy one- or two-step backbreaking), see the above story or read the following summary: Don't be stupid.

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE RESTAURANT IN BIRMINGHAM?

- Dreamland
- Sakura
- G's
- Burt's on the Bluff
- PO....not because of the food, but because of the memories
- Jim n Nick's
- Hot Hot Fish Club
- Rojo
- Kobe Steakhouse
- Pita Stop
- Brio
- Doodles
- Los Compadres....Can't beat yummy, authentic Mexican food =)

## WHAT SONG DEFINES YOUR SENIOR YEAR?

- Ramble on-- Led Zeppelin
- There goes my life- Kenny Chesney
- Bittersweet Symphony-- The Verve
- Do you Realize-- the Flaming Lips
- Clocks- Coldplay
- Nothing but a good time --- Poison
- Remember When- Alan Jackson
- To quote Saved By the Bell...when Jessi sings, "I'm so excited, I'm so excited, I'm so . . . scared!"
- Shot through the heart- Bon Jovi
- Shake your tail feather - P Diddy
- More to Life- Stacy Orisco
- This one's for the girls- Martina McBride
- Leaving on a Jet Plane
- God put a smile upon my face- Coldplay

## WHAT ABOUT YOU HAS CHANGED THE MOST SINCE FRESHMAN YEAR?

- worldview
- I've matured a lot and developed my own opinions, philosophies, and theology
- I am not as naïve
- About 15 pounds
- I have a lot more self confidence
- I've found faith in God
- I am an even bigger dork now, but at least I know it
- The size of my butt
- I've ditched the curlers
- More work, more responsibility, and more pressure for future plans
- I don't take myself as seriously, and I've learned to have fun
- Girls talk to me now

# cheer

VOLLEYBALL

CROSS COUNTRY

CHEERLEADING

FOOTBALL

GOLF

SOCCER

WOMENS BASKETBALL

MENS BASKETBALL

SOFTBALL

BASEBALL

TENNIS

TRACK AND FIELD



# VOLLEYBALL : ALYSSA WHITEHEAD

Bump, set, spike. That's the formula that has been ingrained into senior secondary education major Alyssa Whitehead's brain for almost ten years.

Whitehead was part of two Alabama State Volleyball championship teams, earned State MVP honors and an All-State team selection twice in her high-school career. But unlike many Samford Athletes, Whitehead didn't begin her college career at Samford.

"I played two years of junior college volleyball first," Whitehead said. After her second year of competition, Whitehead felt like it was time for change and started looking for other schools. Her junior college coach was friends with the Samford volleyball coach at the time and recommended that she play at Samford.

"My coach recommended Samford because of Coach Nichols," Whitehead said. "The two of them had a similar coaching style that my coach thought would help me."

Whitehead wasted no time becoming a valuable player. Now a senior with countless records behind her, Whitehead remembers why she likes playing at Samford so much.

"I love playing Division I volleyball," she said. "The competition is much better and makes the game more enjoyable." Whitehead said that while she felt the move to Samford was right, it was not without difficulty.

"There was a lot of transition between the two schools and a need for adjustments in learning," she said. "I grew up a lot in the first few years at Samford."

Whitehead will leave behind a program and team that has felt the impact one player can make on a whole group of individuals. She commits her success at Samford to two main objectives that could help future Bulldog volleyball players.

"Work hard," she said. "Because that hard work is bound to pay off. And simply make sure to have fun."





## CROSS COUNTRY : CHAD JOHNSON

A glimpse into Chad Johnson's past offers a more sinister mood than the everyday zeal that people witness in his demeanor. By the age of 11, he began working construction with his father to help pay the bills. Eventually the family's financial situation became bad enough that they found themselves without a permanent home. They moved from hotel to hotel and sometimes slept in their car for shelter. For Johnson, this was a tumultuous time in his life, but hardships also carry important lessons.

"Most children watch what their parents do and follow in their steps," Johnson said. "When I was about 12 years old God allowed me to step back and identify the behaviors around me that did not bear good results." Consequently, Johnson decided that one of his main goals would be to attend a university in order for him to establish a more secure lifestyle.

Despite doctors' predictions that Johnson wouldn't be successful in athletics because of asthma, he began to run in middle school with the hopes of being awarded a track and cross country scholarship. After winning several state championships during his high school career, Johnson attracted the attention of coaches from several college programs. He decided to trust in God's wisdom during the college selection process.

Three schools offered him adequate athletic scholarships. Johnson said, "I didn't want to overstep the path that God had set out for me so, following the advice of my pastor, I began to pray that God would close the doors to the schools where I was not supposed to be."

The University of Southern Mississippi was originally Johnson's first choice, but it lost its men's running program. Troy State University was another option, but it mysteriously misplaced his phone messages, and officials there were unable to reestablish contact. This left Samford University as the obvious choice.

Johnson quickly discovered that Samford was the place where God wanted him. "When I visited here it was a comfortable, relaxing place," Johnson said. "It felt like home." The next spring Johnson was enrolled in college courses.

While many students may view college as the next logical step, Johnson views his opportunity for a higher education solely as a blessing from God that is not to be taken for granted.

With the dream of attending a university accomplished, Johnson has begun to set new goals. He hopes to use his exercise science major to aid people on an individual basis. Outside of his profession, another of Johnson's passions is helping unprivileged youth. Growing up, Johnson witnessed compassion first-hand as friends and residents of Cullman, the town where he attended high school, sometimes furnished him with physical and emotional support. "Because someone influenced and supported me I want to do the same for another child if possible," he said. "People always pray for blessings. Instead, they should realize the blessings they have. I realize some of those and want to pass them on to others."

Johnson has used his blessings on and off the track at Samford. His faith and perseverance have served him well in his athletic career and are paving the way to a bright future.



## CHEERLEADING : BRUCE JOHNSON

While former high school mascot Bruce Johnson could have been Samford's next "Spike the bulldog," he chose to explore another spirit-filled venue in athletics - cheerleading. While it was never his favorite pastime before coming to Samford, sophomore Bruce Johnson's love for being a mascot led him to become the head male cheerleader at Samford sporting events.

"I was a mascot in high school," Johnson said. My sister has been a cheerleader for forever and that's where I got my introduction to it."

When he chose to come to Samford, the thought of the sport had not crossed his mind as a means of involvement.

"I was already committed to coming to Samford," Johnson said. "But after hearing about openings on the cheerleading squad I said 'Wow, that sounds like fun.'"

Johnson has since been an integral part of Samford's cheerleading squad, manning the base position of their most important and dangerous stunts and being the voice behind the megaphone.

"I love cheering at football games because there's a lot of energy there," he said. "I enjoy the basketball games because they're a little shorter and allow for more flexibility."

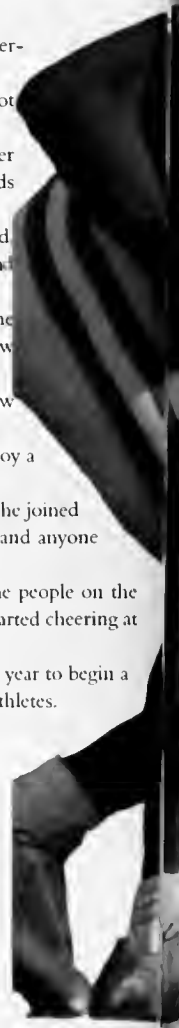
Most of all, Johnson covets the time he gets to spend with his fellow cheerleaders and doesn't plan on quitting anytime soon.

"I definitely plan on cheering throughout college," Johnson said. "I enjoy a lot of the camaraderie that comes from being with the squad."

Johnson said that there are a few important lessons he has learned since he joined the cheer squad, advice that could help those interested in cheerleading and anyone who desires to try something different.

"Don't limit yourself," he said. "I've learned a lot about myself and the people on the squad but I think, that, above all things, is what I've learned most since I started cheering at Samford."

Johnson will step back on to the football field and basketball court next year to begin a new season of bringing energy to the crowds and cheering on Samford's athletes.



## FOOTBALL : CORTLAND FINNEGAN

In only two years as a member of Samford's football team, Cortland Finnegan has already had the career of a lifetime. As defensive back and kick return man, Finnegan has emerged as one of the Bulldog's most dangerous players. The 2003 Ohio Valley Defensive Player of the Year and the NCAA I-AA Independent Special Teams Player of the Year has frustrated opponents with an uncanny ability to add points to the scoreboard, whether it's returning an interception, fumble or kickoff. For those who have seen his amazing speed, it should come as no surprise that Finnegan was an offensive star as a running back and receiver at Milton High School in Fla., where he was named the 3A High School State Player of the Year in 2001.

When Finnegan arrived at Samford, it wasn't too long before he discovered that his role would change from offense to defense. Coach Bill Gray and the rest of his staff realized the value of Finnegan's speed and plugged him in where he was needed most - defending the pass.

"They told me they needed me on defense, so that's where I went," he said.

Finnegan made his impression on coaches as a freshman. His talents were evident as a defensive player and they were just as spectacular on special teams. Using the kick return skills he developed in high school, Finnegan recorded two 95-yard touchdowns in one game.

"From playing offense so much in high school, when it came to returning kicks, it was just like being running back, so that really helped," Finnegan said. "And having good coaches always helps."

In addition to a strong coaching staff and experience on offense, Finnegan realizes that agility and speed are critical to playing his position and have made him into the scoring force that he is.

"Speed is about 70 percent," Finnegan said. "Playing the game for a long time has helped but to play a skill position speed is important."

When the seconds are ticking away on the clock, quick decision-making doesn't hurt either, and Finnegan emulates the players famous for doing just that.

"Dieion and Barry Sanders. Those two sort of caught my eye growing up," Finnegan said. "They had all the moves."

So far, Finnegan has made all the right moves in his first two seasons. When the 2002 season reached its end, Finnegan was honored as 2002 Sports Network Third Team All-American, 2002 Don Hansen First Team All-American, 2002 I-AA All Independent First-Team Defense and Special Teams, and 2002 I-AA All-Independent Special Teams Player of the Year. Entering the 2003 season, Finnegan picked up right where he left off the year before and returned a kick-off 85 yards for a touchdown in Samford's home opener against the University of West Alabama. In the Bulldogs' most important game of the season against the San Diego State Aztecs, he returned a fumble 51 yards to score.

The 2003 season was a time of improvement for Finnegan and the entire Samford football team, who should bring plenty of smiles to fans in 2004. Keep an eye out for No. 26. Just don't blink. Before you know it, he'll be gone.



## GOLF : ANDY McRAE

While other 4-year-olds spent their Saturday mornings glued to the tube watching "Thundercats," Andy McRae was in hot pursuit of the game that still pulls him out of his Saturday slumber 18 years later — golf.

"My dad and I would ride our golf cart to the golf track of a golf course in Southaven, Miss., every Saturday," McRae said.

Although he had a set of cut-down junior clubs at the time, he mostly remembers enjoying Barq's root beer and searching relentlessly for old Jack Nicklaus golf balls.

With beginnings like that, it's no surprise that by age 8, McRae was living the coveted summer country-club life in Birmingham of nine holes in the morning with a few friends, a break and lunch at the pool and then tennis lessons in the afternoons.

The lifestyle and practice paid off. Without ever having any formal training, McRae voyaged into the competitive world of golf in the 8th grade. The year was a big warm-up for McRae, who ended eighth man out of nine on his school's team, but continued competitively and improved with every swing.

"Maybe it was from watching golf all the time and listening to the commentators," McRae said, "or maybe it was all the practice and determination I had to get the ball in the hole."

McRae went on to play for Hoover High School in Birmingham and played independently in junior golf competitions, although his game was not exactly where he wanted it.

"It was discouraging but made me work harder because that's what I had decided to devote my time to," he said. "It was either move on or improve, and I wasn't ready to move on. Then, something finally clicked my junior year of high school. Once you hit a certain skill level in golf, the game becomes more mental. I finally began to develop a mental game, and it made all the difference."

The summer after his junior year, McRae won two tournaments, and his school team went on to become state champions both that year and McRae's senior year. These consistent performances prompted the notion of McRae playing collegiate golf.

He remembers his first year at Samford as an awakening. "To begin with, I was given used shirts by Samford, and my first tournament couldn't have been worse," McRae said.

But it was previous coach Mark Ware's first year as well, and he was generous with his time and money. He loaded the program with things it didn't have in the past. That spring, McRae made significant improvement with a top five individual finish in a tournament.

Since then, McRae has always been a leader of the bulldog pack and has been the Samford golf program's MVP. However, summers are still a struggle. "I've been playing for seven tournaments in the higher-level circuit," he said. "During the season in college, there are and how difficult it is to financially

support myself," McRae said. "Playing college golf I play now. It provides a

Before McRae begins working masters in tax accounting in the fall, he will play in two or three this summer but says he will be putting the sticks away for a year and a half while completing the program.

McRae's coach, fellow golfers and he has what it takes to play professionally. He live the dream but also longs for a steady

"I'm not willing to live out of the back of my car, just for a chance at a top level," McRae said, "because, at that level, it's not your name out there. You don't win to advance to the next level. The money at the top level."

McRae said there will always be inside that doesn't want him to face the reality of a 40-hour-a-week job but instead makes him want to make it on the PGA tour. "But I admit it's going to be hard to turn down a steady paycheck and a chance."

McRae plans to always play amateur when he can. "I just want the luxury of playing once a week," he said. He has even played high school golf just for the chance to play all that he's learned.

Whether in the PGA, a CEO or teaching, McRae has the drive to always love the game.

"I here aren't too many other to sun down and love it," McRae said. "Golf lasts a lifetime."

## SOCCER : LINDSAY SHANKS

Evansville, Ind., located on the banks of the Ohio River just across the border from Kentucky, could possibly be described as being in the heart of basketball country. However, this story doesn't take place on the hardwood. This one starts on the neatly trimmed grass of soccer fields where girls of various ages and skill levels learn the importance of sportsmanship and hard work.

A standout among them was Lindsay Shanks. "My older sister played soccer," said Shanks when asked how she got her start in the game. "I always wanted to be just like her and do what she did. She started playing soccer and I followed. Eventually, she stopped playing, but I continued," Shanks said.

Shanks attended F.J. Reitz High School in Evansville, an institution with an enrollment of a little more than 1,400 students. Shanks made a name for herself on the soccer field at Reitz, scoring 29 goals in her senior season and becoming a two-time Southern Indiana Athletic Conference First-Team award winner, the Evansville Women's Soccer Player of the Year during the 2000 season and a member of the Indiana Olympic Development Program.

Shanks came to Samford University under head coach Barry Spitzer. Spitzer, who got Samford's women's soccer program up and running in 1997, must have recognized Shanks' talents on the field because he didn't wait long to play her at the collegiate level. It was a gamble on a true freshman that paid off. Shanks tied the record for goals scored by a freshman, broke the school's single-season points record with 23 and won a place on the Atlantic Sun Conference's second team.

Spitzer did not return to the Bulldogs the following season, but the team was left in the capable hands of a new coach, Todd Yelton. Shanks' performance on the playing field picked up right where it had left off from the year before. She set a school record by scoring goals in five straight matches, took second place on Samford's all-time points and goals lists and kept her spot on the Atlantic Sun Conference's second team.

Now in her junior year at Samford, Shanks has helped lead Samford's women's soccer team to its most successful season. The team won the regular season championship in the Ohio Valley Conference, to which the Bulldogs were newcomers, and hosted the conference tournament for the first time. Meanwhile, Shanks earned some individual recognition, winning second team all-conference honors along with several of her teammates. She also became Samford's all-time leading scorer, picking up her 24th goal during the OVC championship game against Eastern Illinois.

Shanks has made a name for herself here at Samford and she's a fan of Coach Yelton's leadership abilities. "I wouldn't want to play anywhere else," she said. "I love my teammates." This is not a feeling that Shanks has experienced in all aspects of her soccer career.

"Every time I come back here, I realize just how much God has blessed me on this team. There are so many people from different backgrounds and yet we

still click. I just always come back saying how much I really love this team," she said.

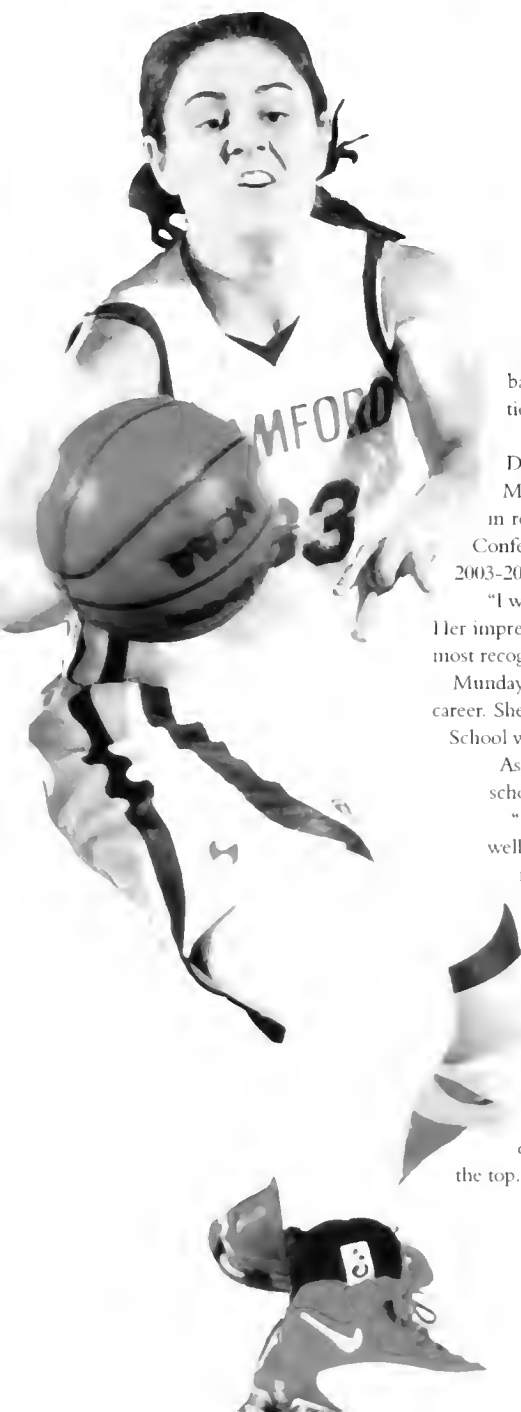
The future is wide open for this young student athlete from the Midwest. The team set a standard in their past year's performance that has fans anxiously awaiting the next season. Shanks has shown a trend of constant progress, and it's probably safe to assume that the future will be even more rewarding for her than the past.

"I really want to go to the NCAA tournament," Shanks said. Judging from the sidelines, anything is possible.

2003      Soccer Record      14- 6- 3 (W-L-T)



## WOMENS BASKETBALL : ALEX MUNDAY



She came to Samford with high expectations of the Samford Bulldog's women's basketball team. This year, freshman Alex Munday exceeded the team's expectations of her performance.

The 6-foot forward led the team in scoring, averaging 14.4 points per game. During Jan-Term Munday scored a career high of 25 points in the game against Murray State. She led the team in steals for the year, finished second on the team in rebounding (with 5.7 rebounds per game), and was honored as the Ohio Valley Conference's Rookie of the Week an astonishing six consecutive times during the 2003-2004 season.

"I want to perform well in order to help our team win," Munday said. And she did. Her impressive stats and work ethic carried throughout the season making her one of the most recognized players on the team.

Munday's level of performance seems to be patterned after her high school basketball career. She set an all time school record for career rebounds at Knoxville's Farragut High School with 1,023 rebounds.

As a freshman at Samford, Munday found that the biggest difference between high school and college basketball was the level of physical intensity.

"In high school, I was stronger than everyone and I could battle down low pretty well," she said. "In college, everyone who is in the post is strong, and they are all ready to fight you down low."

Munday's main goal this year was to get playing time as a freshman. "I really wanted to get a starting position on the team," she said. "I think that I have reached that goal."

Her favorite aspect of the sport is offense. "I really like it when I pass the ball to someone and get an assist," she said. Munday had a career high of four assists on the road against Jacksonville State in December.

When asked about her goals for the rest of her college basketball career Munday said, "I would like to compete in the OVC championship game." She will very likely get her wish. This freshman is already climbing the ladder of success in college athletics, and from the looks of things, she's headed for the top.

## MENS BASKETBALL : TYSON DORSEY

For the past four years, senior business major Tyson Dorsey has made a name for himself at Samford and in the NCAA record books. The Ontario native finished among the nation's top ten three-point field goal percentage shooters during his junior and senior year. Dorsey accredits his success to one simple area - practice.

"It's a great feeling to know that all those hours in the gym paid off," Dorsey said. "I'm not much for statistics, but it's a nice thing to be able to say I did it."

For Dorsey, basketball has been in a life-long passion. Though he grew up in Canada, the "hockey headquarters" of the world, he put down the puck and picked up his basketball when he was only four years old.

"My Dad started me in a Catholic Youth League when I was underage," Dorsey said. "I was only four, but he said that if I wanted to play I had to take it seriously and practice a lot."

Dorsey also learned good shooting form from watching one of the best shooters of all time, Larry Bird.

"My favorite basketball players growing up were of course Michael Jordan and Larry Bird," he said. "My dad loved Larry and the Celtics, so I got a lot of that growing up."

A strong work ethic and heavy practice paid off for Dorsey as he developed a long-range touch that gained him enough attention for an NCAA Division-I scholarship. He knew that if he worked hard, the results would pay off, but he was pleasantly surprised when Samford made their offer.

"I was never really sure [of myself as an athlete] until I actually signed my scholarship because I had no one to measure myself against," Dorsey explained. "I always believed in myself but never really knew what it would take to get a division-one scholarship."

Samford's strong academic reputation played just as an important factor in Dorsey's decision as their recent success in college basketball.

"Samford offered a great education as well as top-notch basketball. It didn't hurt that they had won the conference and went to the tournament the two years before I came," Dorsey said.

Dorsey's strength in long-range shooting was apparent from early on in his Samford career. He hit eight three-pointers in a game during his freshman year, improved his shooting average every season and became a regular starter by his junior year. To mentally prepare for games, he envisioned making his long-range shots. Opposing coaches and players were left with those same visions long after the games were over.

"I did this the whole day of the game," he said. "I think it gave me confidence [for] the real situation."

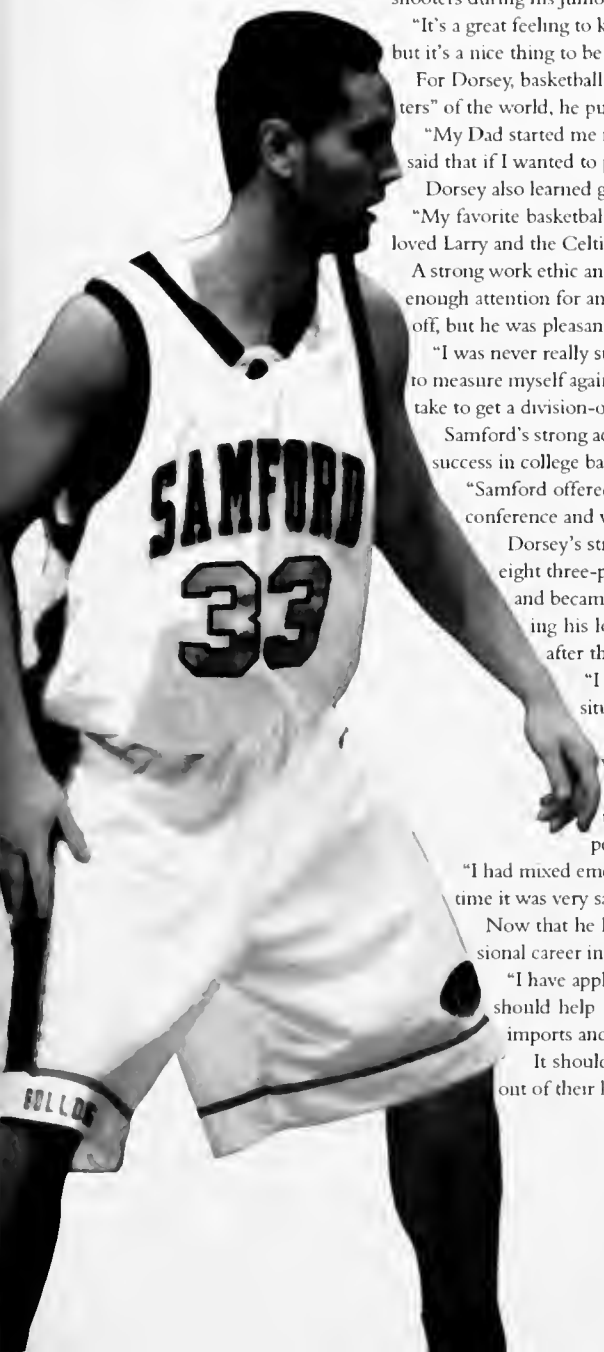
During his Samford career, Dorsey's method made him one of Samford most reliable weapons. His talent will be sorely missed by his fans, fellow-players and coaches. When Dorsey finished his Samford career in Seibert Hall along with his close friends and teammates, he realized how much his time at Samford meant to him as a player and a person.

"I had mixed emotions," he said. "Everything was amazing and we all played great games, but at the same time it was very sad. An exciting stage of my life was over."

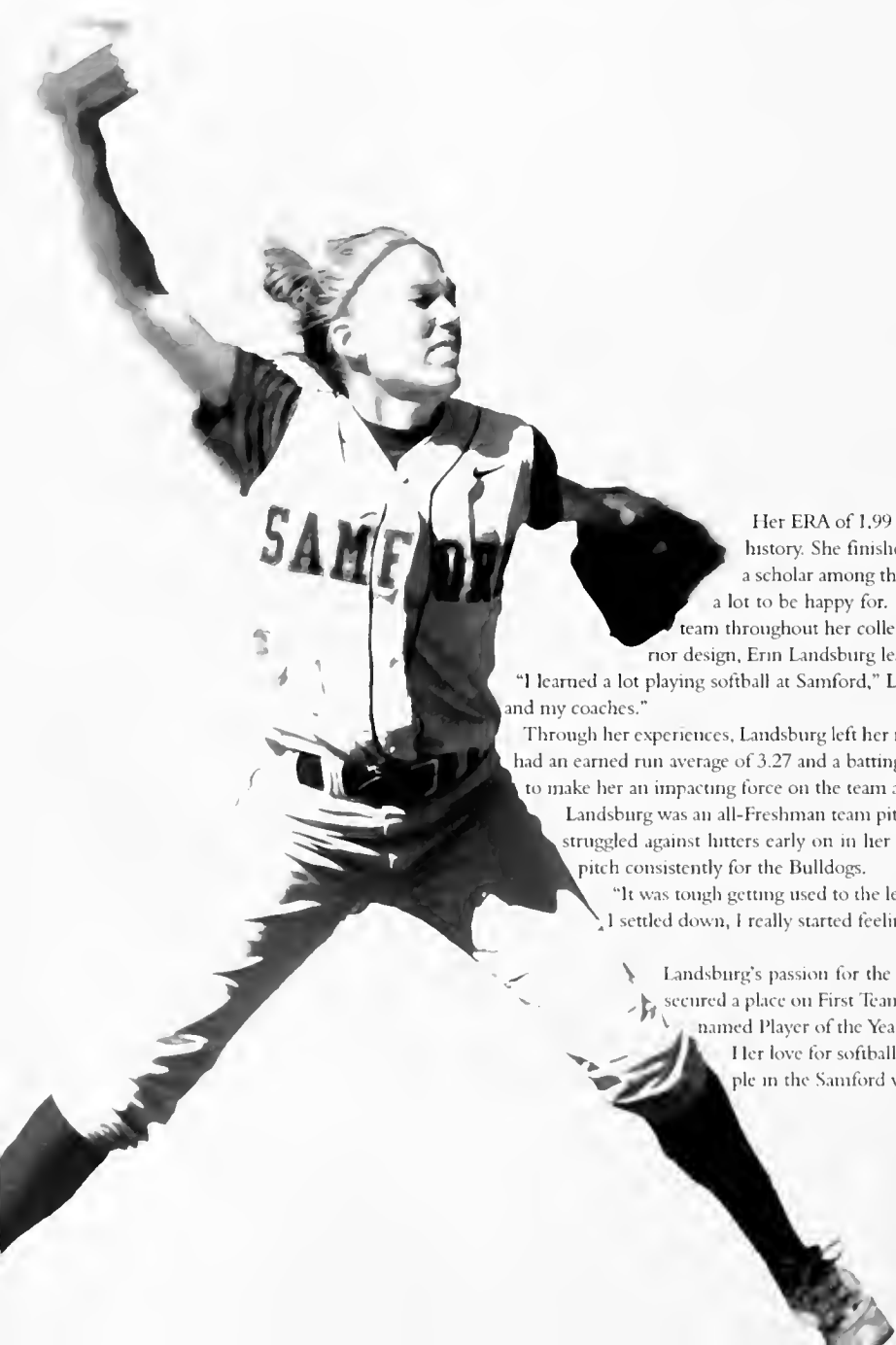
Now that he has left a successful Samford career behind him, Dorsey has his sights set on a professional career in Europe. He's even taken care of some paperwork to help his transition to the next level.

"I have applied for my British citizenship already because my Mom was born there," he said. "That should help me a lot when trying to play overseas because European teams are only allowed two imports and if I get it I won't count as one of them."

It shouldn't be too long until European players start losing sleep, trying to get that same vision out of their head.



## SOFTBALL : ERIN LANDSBURG



Her ERA of 1.99 is the third lowest among softball pitchers in Samford history. She finished 21 innings without giving up an earned run. She is a scholar among the student body. The 5'5" senior from Tuscon, AZ., has a lot to be happy for. From playing an integral part of the women's softball team throughout her college career to graduating this May with a degree in interior design, Erin Landsburg leaves Samford University with satisfaction and pride.

"I learned a lot playing softball at Samford," Landsburg said. "I took away a lot from my teammates and my coaches."

Through her experiences, Landsburg left her mark on Samford athletics. During her senior year, she had an earned run average of 3.27 and a batting average of .265. Good enough by anyone's standards to make her an impacting force on the team and against opponents.

Landsburg was an all-Freshman team pitcher during her first season at Samford, and while she struggled against hitters early on in her career, she was able to enhance her performance and pitch consistently for the Bulldogs.

"It was tough getting used to the level of play that is college softball," she said. "But once I settled down, I really started feeling good about my play."

Landsburg's passion for the game was formed long before her college career. She secured a place on First Team All-Conference all four years of high-school and was named Player of the Year as a freshman.

Her love for softball and her devotion to hard work made Landsburg a staple in the Samford women's softball team both on and off the field.



## BASEBALL : JOE DENSON

In four full seasons, he has never led the Samford baseball team in any major offensive category, and his team has never had a winning record. But make no mistake, this is his team.

Joe Denson is smart, articulate, and, quite simply, a natural leader. A four-year starter primarily at short-stop, Denson has been "the face" of the Samford baseball program since graduating from Vestavia Hills High School in 2000, where he won back-to-back state championships and earned super all-state and several state player-of-the-year honors as a senior.

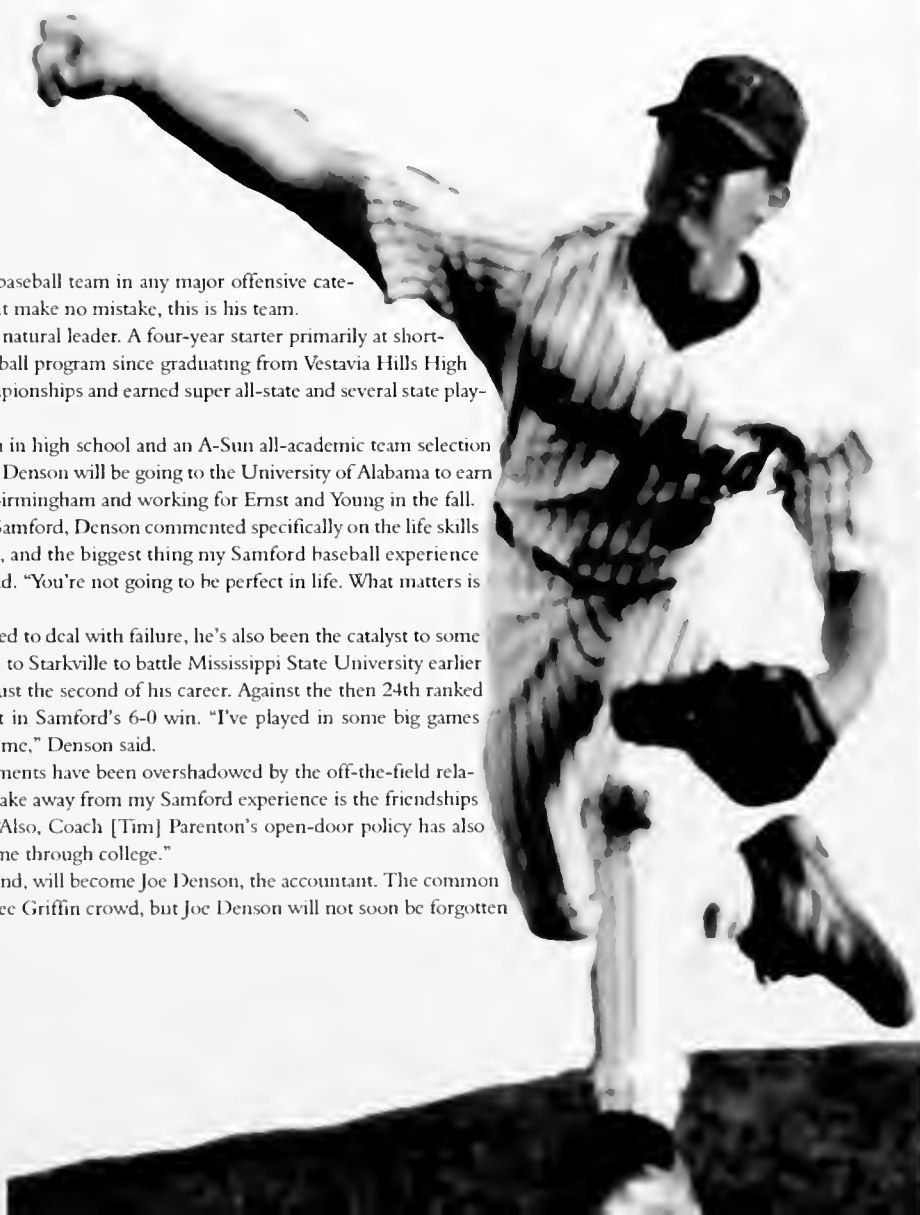
Joe Denson is smart. An academic all-state selection in high school and an A-Sun all-academic team selection in 2002, it's no surprise to anyone that knows him that Denson will be going to the University of Alabama to earn his masters' degree in accounting before retuning to Birmingham and working for Ernst and Young in the fall.

Joe Denson is articulate. Reflecting on his career at Samford, Denson commented specifically on the life skills he has learned. "You can learn a lot through athletics, and the biggest thing my Samford baseball experience has taught me is how to deal with failure," Denson said. "You're not going to be perfect in life. What matters is how you deal with it."

Joe Denson is a leader. While Denson has been forced to deal with failure, he's also been the catalyst to some of Samford's biggest victories. When Samford traveled to Starkville to battle Mississippi State University earlier this year, Denson was given the start on the mound, just the second of his career. Against the then 24th ranked Bulldogs of MSU, Denson threw a three-hit shutout in Samford's 6-0 win. "I've played in some big games throughout my career, and I just don't let them get to me," Denson said.

However, Denson says his on-the-field accomplishments have been overshadowed by the off-the-field relationships he's gained. "The most important thing I'll take away from my Samford experience is the friendships I've built with former and current players," he said. "Also, Coach [Tim] Parenton's open-door policy has also been very helpful. He's been a good teacher to guide me through college."

For now, Joe Denson, the Birmingham baseball legend, will become Joe Denson, the accountant. The common cheers of "Let's go, Joe" will fade away from the Joe Lee Griffin crowd, but Joe Denson will not soon be forgotten on or off the field.



## TENNIS : EMILY NUNNALLY



With a style all her own, Emily Nunnally is an intimidating force at the net as she confidently puts tough balls away – and she makes it look easy.

Nunnally, the only senior on the Samford women's tennis team, brings experience and stability to a young team that is going through the transition of a new coach. Playing in the number one position in singles and doubles this year, Nunnally will finish off her Samford career by leading the team against the best of Division I tennis.

"The number one spot is difficult, because you are put up against top college players week after week," Nunnally said. "I'm to the point now that I have the experience behind me, since I've been playing since the age of seven, and have had three years of college tennis. I just need to go out there with full confidence, and know that I can compete."

The dynamics of the team have changed in the three years since Nunnally has played for Samford.

"My freshman year, there were four other girls that came in with me and now I'm the only one left," Nunnally said. "They've all either transferred out or left for various reasons, so it's different being the only senior."

Nunnally's senior status makes her a leader on the team made up of six freshmen and two juniors.

"I'm definitely starting to realize that this is my last year of playing college tennis," Nunnally said. "I'm just going to enjoy having one more semester of playing."

On scholarship for Samford since her freshman year, Nunnally was recruited from her hometown of Hattiesburg, Miss. where her high school team won the state championship. Samford sparked her interest initially because it is where her father attended pharmacy school.

"This was the only school I applied to," Nunnally said. "Once I visited, I had a peace about where I needed to be because the environment was just what I was looking for in a college. The girls on the tennis team were great, and it was just a really good fit. I've never regretted coming here."

Even though her eligibility finishes at the close of the semester, Nunnally will stay at Samford for another year finishing up her degree in exercise science. After graduating in May of 2005, she plans to take the athletic training certification exam followed by physical therapy school.

"Growing up playing sports has definitely influenced me into going into the medical field," Nunnally said. "And athletic training was just a perfect fit. It will be ideal to still be able to be around sports even if I can't play them."

# TRACK AND FIELD : BRYAN BADDORF

By Brandon  
Gresham

Bryan Baddorf strives off of the feeling of competition. He grew up watching his older brother Brett succeed again and again in track and cross country and decided in the seventh grade that he could do better. If you ask him who or what it was that inspired him to run, he will sum it up in one word: competition.

"I like the competition," he said. "Running drives you towards your goals and forces you to better yourself in everyday life." Finding his reason for running is simple for the junior journalism and mass communications major. "It was more about the competition than any certain one person or thing," Baddorf said. "I guess it could be my brother that inspired me. He set all these school records and, as always, I wanted to be better than him."

Eight years and a number of awards and records later, Baddorf is beating his brother and a number of other runners as well. Since coming to Samford he has set the 5000 meter track record with a time of 14:44, the indoor 3000 meter track record in a time of 8:39 (which formerly belonged to his brother), and he's broken the 10,000 meter track record twice.

Where most people don't see track as a team sport, Baddorf says he enjoys the team aspect of running the most. "The attitude of the guys that are on your team raises the bar for you and everyone else," he said. "It's what can make or break your race and what can make you successful."

Baddorf also finds enjoyment in the mental aspect of racing. "In a way, it's you against everyone else," he said. "Your teammates help you out a lot, but it's all up to you once you step up and toe that starting line."

Baddorf has seen his running impact him more than just mentally and physically.

"Running has definitely helped me in my faith," he said. "I feel like running parallels Christianity in a number of ways. You have to have an intense dedication for what you do and if you falter you're going to come up short, but you always get another chance at another race."

While his junior year of track has not been his easiest, Baddorf hopes he has given his all to his running and his team. He spent most of his young life as a runner out to beat his competition — chasing after his brother and other older and talented runners. Now, finishing his junior year of track running, he can look back with a smile and see younger runners chasing after him.

# SENIOR SURVEY

What do you know now that you didn't know when you were a senior in high school?

- More than I can say
- Being cool is relative
  - That apple juice tastes pretty lame
  - I don't have to depend on comfort and affirmation from my parents to live
  - I am really a big nerd
- Stay in school as long as you can
- Validity and reliability of all body compositioned determinants
- The goodness of the Lord
- Hard work pays off
- My high school friends and I will still be friends
- you can't trust everyone you meet
- College isn't as intimidating as I thought. I now know what a "credit" is.
- The only way to get through life is with a couple of really good friends, and a good sense of humor

Best Thursday night activity?

- anything but clubbing
- movie night with the girls
- foam parties at Tiki Bob's
- The tail with the nu's
- Watch FRIENDS because clubs are overrated
- Cruising 5 points
- Target and Bowling
- The Blue Monkey
- Homework
- Fro-ing my hair and walking around Brookwood Mall
- Half-shells and Music Hall

Who do you wish you had gotten to know better in the past four years?

- Houston Estes- he's freaking hilarious
- The squirrels, I am still scared of them!
- David and Arthur in the food court
- C'RC lab
- God
- Tim from the music school
- April Robinson
- Some of my teachers
- Matt Johnson's mom

## Interpret

JAMES JENSEN A SAMFORD ICON

AN EYE FOR DESIGN

THE YELLOW BOAT BEN'S STORY

A GRANDE FINALE

75





# James Jensen

a Samford icon

77

By Lynn Ormsby

Walking down Buchanan Hall is a strange experience. It's loud with music and conversation, but not because of students frantically running to class or cramming for exams. It is the music professors whistling down the hallway and stopping to joke with one another, making it immediately evident that the music department is a unique place.

For more than 30 years, Dr. James Jensen's leadership and personality have graced the floors of Samford University's music school. Even after such a long time, his passion for music and teaching has not faded. Not only do his theory classes encompass music through the ages, but also different styles, techniques, writing and harmonizing all of which will aid his students in their performance careers.

It was a combination of factors that brought Jensen to his current position. "I am a professor today because I once had some great undergraduate professors," Jensen said. He received inspiration from music professors and a poetry professor who taught him to "put lyrics to work." Because of their influences, not only is Jensen a professor, but also a woodwind performer and a composer.

Senior theory composition major Austin Padgett has studied under Jensen many times over the last four years and recognizes his ability to incorporate a variety of issues into the classroom. "Dr. Jensen is very knowledgeable on all fronts of music," Padgett said. But he is also so articulate and well read. He always brings other subjects into relation with music."

Jensen explains that music seeps into the crevices of everyday life. His own love of the art form is full of passion and energy, which he strives to pass on to students. "I believe music should be exciting," Jensen said. "To a true musician, it should occupy every thought."

Freshman voice major Joshua Saylor, who had Dr. Jensen for the first time spring semester, immediately recognized his professor's ability to constantly work with notes and arrange beautiful pieces of music. "Dr. Jensen is very intelligent," Saylor said. "His students can tell he is always composing in his head."

Dr. Jensen teaches students to grasp that intensity through his unique methods of instruction and attitude toward the classroom. "I want my students to walk away from my class with an excitement about the music process and hopefully enlightenment along the way," he said.

However, excitement can only get one so far. Jensen stresses that developing ear training and critical listening skills take his students to the next level. Step by step, Samford music majors pick up passion and knowledge, turning their raw talent into something extraordinary. In fact, Jensen's favorite part of the job is that evolution of talent. "I think watching the progression from freshman to senior is a remarkable transformation," he said.

Other outlets of growth, knowledge and satisfaction are easy to find anywhere on campus, but Dr. Jensen believes that there is something special about the talent that fills Buchanan Hall.

"I happened to be here when I was in my 20s, and 34 years later Samford students are still interested in their work," Jensen said. "This is a really good place to be."



# THE YELLOW BOAT

BEN'S STORY

by Laura Brost

The audience was a hodgepodge of men and women, students and children, teenagers and grandparents. They sat on risers covered in carpet pieces like those found in kindergarten for "circle time." Each person sat cross-legged, obediently waiting for the show to begin before them. Colored streamers hung from the ceiling. A child's drawing was displayed from in case! Huge, life-size legos dotted the stage, serving as benches and props. The music in the background set the mood as each one waited anxiously to see the story unfold. Enter Benjamin with coloring tools in hand.

And so began Sanford University's production of *The Yellow Boat*.

Benjamin is a bright, energetic 8-year-old boy who loves life. His parents shower him with attention and he is the only child to get a most of their attention. Shortly after his birth in the early '80s, he develops a blood disease. Though nothing too serious, it is a condition he will be forced to deal with for the rest of his life. As he and his parents cope with this

realization, they begin to get used to the routine blood transfusions and check-ups. It is a result of one of these transfusions, however, that introduces the story's tragic focal point: AIDS.

*The Yellow Boat* is the story of Ben's life told from his point of view. He narrates his experiences with details of friends, school, parents, and the disease that has so drastically affected his life. Ben opens the eyes of his audience to the reality of his condition and allows them to get close enough to miss him when he is gone.

The show touched the lives of Sanford students, faculty, and alumni, but it was an even greater success with the audience for whom it was originally written: the children.



**Though it addressed a subject often avoided by teachers and parents, *The Yellow Boat* presented the realistic problem of AIDS in a light that children could relate to and understand.**

It wasn't easy for director and theatre professor Angie Lindbloom. *The Yellow Boat* eventually acquired audiences from schools despite receiving responses such as "We're not sure if our kids are ready to hear that" from many teachers. Another uncertainty for Lindbloom was the type of reaction she would receive from Samford faculty and students, but she was pleasantly surprised.

"The Samford audience was a wonderful thing," she said. "They embraced it more than I ever expected. People who I wouldn't expect to be moved by things were moved by it. When I experienced that, it made it worth it."

The casting of the *The Yellow Boat* was perhaps the most impressive aspect of the production. With the lead character being an 8-year-old boy, Lindbloom relied on her faith in Samford's theatre department as she placed students in their prospective roles. "The students we have are so fantastic," Lindbloom said. "I am so glad that I had the cast I did."

Composed of nine characters, the cast consisted of Benjamin, his mother and father, his best friend Eddie, the hospital child-life specialist and four characters that changed from scene to scene.

Senior theatre major Abbi Butler had the privileged, yet overwhelming, role of Benjamin. Not only did she have to become a different gender, but this 21-year-old portrayed a character that was less than half her age. Many of her ideas for her character came from her younger brother.

"I watched home videos of my brother and movies like *Stepmom* and *The Sandlot*," Butler said. "I created a 'Ben dance' that would get me in the mood of being a little boy – copying what my little brother did when he was young."

Sophomore theatre major Kurtis Donnelly played Eddie, Ben's best friend, and also had to transform to an 8-year-old child. The problem for him was not the gender, but the actual size. Donnelly's tall stature of 6'4" forced him to think of other ways to gain the credibility of his audience.

"Playing a kid was easy, but the hard part was being pretty tall and pretty big," Donnelly said. "I just had to get the audience to look beyond my body and focus on other things. A lot of it was my voice, and I did different things with my face and hands and feet because kids are pretty fidgety and move around a lot."

Not only was *The Yellow Boat* a success at Samford, producing audiences leaving the theatre in tears, awe or deep reflection, but the children's show also appealed to the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF) competition.

In this competition, an adjudicator watches the show, gives a critique to the cast and director and decides whether or not to nominate it for consideration at the regional level. Individual aspects of the show are open for nomination as well, such as actors and/or designers of the set, sound, lighting and costumes. The show, its sound production and three of its actors were nominated at the regional level.

Butler who played the role of Ben, senior theatre major Ashley Moymhan who played Ben's mother and sophomore theatre major Kurtis Donnelly who played Eddie, all were nominated to go on to compete in acting. "I couldn't be more proud. It's really an honor just to be nominated," Lindbloom said. "We do [theatre] to move people, and that's what they did."

*The Yellow Boat* was the third Samford University Theatre for Young Audiences (SUTYA) production and the first show to kick off the 2003-2004 school year. Students were not quite prepared to be sucked into Ben's world, become attached to his character and experience the fear and loss that accompany AIDS. But this is the purpose of the theatre, is it not? To not only entertain people with laughter and comedy, but to educate them as well through the story of another.



When I came to Sanford University, I came knowing three things about the school. I knew that Sanford had a school of law, a school of pharmacy and that the grass at the main entrance was quite green. A year and a half later, I've come to know another thing. I found out recently that Sanford has a graphic design program. I'm sure I could have assumed that there was some kind of art course that could cater to students who enjoyed computers, videos and graphics. Nonetheless, I have now officially found out that such a program exists on campus. But I have the feeling that I'm not the only one who didn't know much of anything about this particular major.

In a diminutive corner at the end of a dark hallway in Ben L. Harrison Theatre is the graphic design department. Small programs at Sanford University with small numbers of students are often very protective of their resources and relationships. I found this out when I approached the electronically locked door to enter the graphic design room. Cardina had to come let me in because I didn't know the correct combination of numbers to enter. Clearly, I was an outsider to this group of people.

"Why do you want to interview me? There's probably someone else that would be better for your piece," Cardina said. This kind of modesty and humility is essential to a graphic designer. Without this attitude, a graphic designer can get lost in their desire to be noticed and get burned out quickly. She informed me that she spends nearly 15 hours a week outside of class in the small fluorescent room where we sat. I probably spend 15 hours per month on work due for six classes.

She spends the time working on projects that are due in a class or just brushes up her skills. "It demands a lot of time but it's something I like. I like being creative," Cardina said. "People don't know how much work goes into one little detail." Though she is not a person of many words, she lets her work speak for her.

Professor of Art and Graphic Design, Richard Dendy, believes that most people do not know what graphic design is. "We give little thought to how much easier or more entertaining a book or magazine, even a website or thirty-second spot on television is because it was well designed," Dendy said. "We do recognize immediately when they are poorly designed."

Although we probably see things every day on campus that have been created by someone in the graphic design program, we give little notice or credit to a job well done, or even recognize that a job was done in the first place.



Then work is all over campus. Almost all student edited publications not generated by the administration or alumni office, are art directed by graphic design majors," Dendy said.

The goal of an artist is to display their work, not themselves. Dendy regularly informs all of his students that graphic designers are the artists who are often unrecognized, and their job, most times, is to make something ordinary and bland into something meaningful and extraordinary. Thirty-one students are enrolled each fall and the art department graduates about 10 students each year. The program is selective and wants the best of the best. The lower-level classes are not introductory courses that every student can simply breeze through. They are classes that weed out the best. The students who struggle usually transfer out, while the remaining students build family-like relationships for their four years.

"There isn't a more satisfying feeling than solving someone else's practical problems while enriching my creative and intellectual understanding of the world around me," Dendy said. He has been a professor of the program for nearly five years and has seen monumental changes occur within it.

I asked Cardina what she wishes people knew about her major. Her response wasn't what I was expecting. I was waiting for her to say she wished people would notice her work ethic and appreciate the hours she puts into projects day after day.

"We don't have much to work with," she said. She believes that if the facility was expanded and software updated, people would start noticing their work.

But Cardina is in it for nothing but the love of design. "I do it to please myself," Cardina said. "I do it until it's the best I can do."

I now know four things about Samford University. I know that the graphic design program at Samford University is a humble program that builds students' character and skills to succeed in life. Although they don't get the recognition that most people crave, the students and faculty of the graphic design program enjoy the ideas generated by each other. Egos are checked at the keypad-locked door; however, they carry pride in knowing that the graphic design students at Samford swept the Birmingham Advertising Federation's student competition last year. They know that they are among the most sought after for intern placement and eventual employment. They know they are the best. They just don't have to tell anyone.

BY TYLER DENDY



## *A Grande Finale*

By Sarah Bryan

Imagine a small, dark room in a downtown cabaret. The gleam of blue tinted lights illuminates a stage. The deep hum of an upright bass, the soft muffled drums and a perky piano fill the darkness. A spunky voice erupts with strength and ease. This might sound like a night at a Broadway show or a ritzy concert. Instead, this professional display of musical theater is simply a graduation requirement for senior McClain Kitchens.

When music majors and musical theater majors hear the word "recital" it sends a shiver down their spines. The countless hours of planning, practicing and performing is completely exhausting, especially when paired with other class work and activities.

Kitchens began planning her recital last summer. After coming off of a tour with the Disney cruise line, she did not waste a moment. "I started brainstorming last spring and after changing my mind several times I finally found a theme that worked," Kitchens said. A theme had to be imagined, songs had to be selected, lighting had to be designed, costumes had to be chosen and musicians had to be hired.

Kitchens nailed down her theme, "Sweet and Sassy," early in the spring semester. This is when all the real work began. All recital participants must include a program with program notes at their showcase. In Kitchens' case, each of her 13 songs had to be researched for these program notes. She had to include information about the composer, lyricist, significance of the show the song was taken from and also how the composer of the song has influenced musical theater. "I spent several weeks researching all of the information that I needed for my program notes," Kitchens said. "This was the academic component of my recital. It was helpful because I not only used the information for my program notes, but I also used them to write the script that helped me transition from one song to the next."

In addition to months of planning, all majors have to actually audition for their own required recitals in front of numerous faculty members. Kitchens prepared to answer any questions and perform any song upon command. All students must pass their audition before the thought of performing can cross their mind.

Upon passing their audition, students begin by hiring musicians and planning a rehearsal schedule. While most students opt to have their recital on Samford's campus in the recital hall, Kitchens wanted to make hers unique by having it at the Somerset Cabaret in downtown Birmingham. "I just found it to be a very nice and intimate environment to help make the audience feel more apart of the show," Kitchens said. "It is more laid back then the recital hall. Although the acoustics are better in the recital hall, it is a bit stuffy and I couldn't do much with the lighting. I wanted it to be a cabare show so I decided to have it in a cabaret theatre." Her show



demonstrated singing, dancing and acting in an appropriate atmosphere. She made transitions between upbeat sassy numbers that included tap dancing, to more sultry ballads sung while reclined atop the piano.

After all the hours of rehearsing, blocking, researching and working, the performance arrives. Students invite friends, family and other classmates to attend their debut. Kitchens even went so far as to have a mini reception with food and drinks for her audience. After the big night, music majors and musical theater majors alike can breathe a sigh of relief as the audience applauds and the lights fade to black. The grand finale of their Samford career is complete.

"I was glad that the responsibility was over," Kitchens said, "but I was excited that I got to share what I love to do with my friends and family. I love performing so I would love to do it again."



WHAT IS THE WORST TREND YOU HAVE SEEN COME THROUGH SAMFORD?

- THE ERAT BOY FRONT-TUCK
- TUBE TOPS IN WINTER
- MONOGRAMMED BACKPACKS
- THE 80s ARE BACK!
- NALGENE BOTTLES
- SUNDRESSES THE FIRST TIME THE WEATHER GETS ABOVE 60 DEGREES
- LANGUAGE SUCH AS "DRIZ" OR "MIZ"
- MESSENGER BAGS
- TRUCKER HATS
- MAN-THIGHS
- BESIDES NORTH FACE, WHICH WILL NEVER LEAVE, WEARING FLIP FLOPS YEAR ROUND
- GIRLS WHO CARRY THOSE BAGS THAT LOOK LIKE DIAPER BAGS...WHAT'S IN THERE ANYWAYS!?
- UGS.... I MEAN, ARE YOU SERIOUS? YOU LIVE IN ALABAMA. THERE IS NO SNOW!

DESCRIBE YOUR SAMFORD EXPERIENCE IN ONE WORD.

- IMPRESSIONABLE
- PRIMO
- INDISCERNIBLE
- FULL
- ENLIGHTENING
- SAWEEEEET
- SECURE
- PRECURSOR
- LIFE-ALTERING
- DRAMA
- PRICELESS
- BLUR
- SHELTERED
- BLESSED
- BUBBELLICIOUS

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE YOU TO GET READY FOR CLASS NOW...HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU FIRST SEMESTER FRESHMAN YEAR?

- IT TAKES ME LONGER NOW.. I ACTUALLY TAKE SHOWERS THESE DAYS
- 45 MIN, 45 MIN
- 20 MINUTES, AN HOUR AT LEAST
- 5 MINUTES, 30 MINUTES
- 40 MINUTES, 2 HOURS.. I GAVE UP FACE PAINTING
- 1 HOUR, 30 MINUTES
- 30 MINUTES, 1 HOUR 15 MINUTES
- 10 MINUTES FOR BOTH



## Whisper

SAMFORD @ NIGHT

GOOD EARTH

ROOTS

IN REMEMBRANCE



6:00 AM



2:15 AM



## While You Were SLEEPING

by Brittany Dawkins

If you feel safe on campus, you should. Campus Safety officers are hard at work in the wee hours, protecting students while they sleep. Among them is Chris Carr. Officer Carr, a second year police administration and social science student at Samford, takes procedure seriously and realizes the importance of constant security on campus.

10:50 p.m. on a Wednesday night. Samford is shutting down for the evening. The front gate closes. As students are turning in for the night, safety procedures taken by the Campus Safety team are just beginning.

It's a little like a living room. With the television softly mumbling the day's news, a box of donuts in the corner beside the arm chair and a steaming cup of coffee under the table lamp beside the phone, one might feel very at home in the Campus Safety guard house.

There isn't much time for relaxation though; campus must be routinely combed and buildings searched on a schedule throughout the entire night.

11:00 p.m. All visitors must be logged in. The phone rings. A student is calling in a friend. Officer Carr waves the car onto campus. He begins dispatching to the other officers around campus, sending one to West campus and one to Beeson Woods to begin the rounds. During these rounds the officers are on the lookout for commotion in the parking lots, intrud-



**"We don't let anyone come  
through the gate that doesn't  
belong here."**

ers anywhere on campus, suspicious people, or activity in the buildings. "We just really don't want any mischief and we have to stay on our toes around here," Officer Carr said. He hasn't sat down once all night.

12:00 p.m. The buildings have to be checked on the hour, the vending machines must be examined for tampering and the sentinel for strangers intensifies.

"23-37," Officer Carr announces into his walkie-talkie. This is a code calling another officer back to the guard gate to escort a student to her dorm.

A car lacking a Samford sticker drives up to the gate. Officer Carr frowns and says, "We don't let anyone come through the gate that doesn't belong here." He confronts the driver as he produces his student ID. Carr steps back into the comfort of the guardhouse. "If a stranger does come through here it is up to them to have whoever they are visiting on campus contact us here at the guardhouse."

Carr gets out the log book and scribbles down the information. All activity, suspicious or routine must be recorded. His walkie-talkie crackles. It's the Beeson officer reporting the status of his most recent round. Carr immediately jots it down.

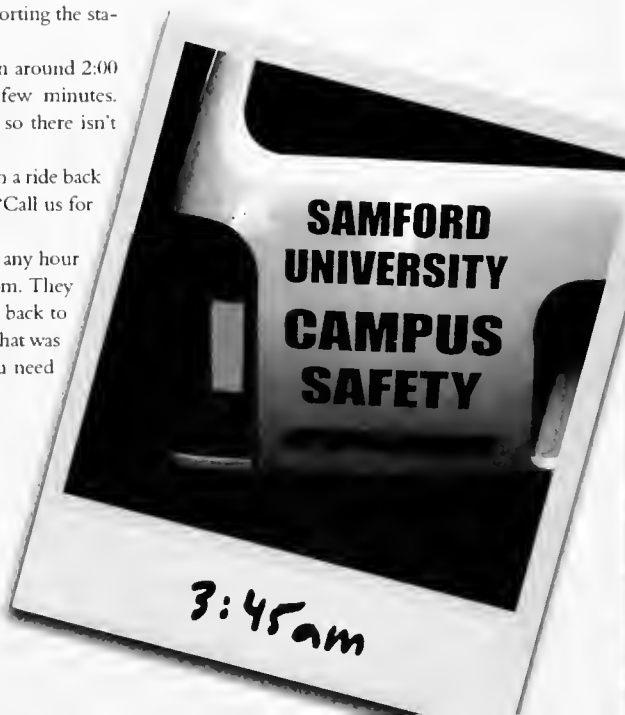
2:00 a.m. This is the first lull in the evening. "The traffic slows down around 2:00 a.m.," Carr said. "Most students are in by then, and I can relax for a few minutes. Housekeeping comes in around 3:00 a.m. and we want to be ready for them, so there isn't much down time.

A few students come onto campus and park in the overflow lot. Carr gets them a ride back to the dorms. "All the officers would encourage safety in numbers," Carr said. "Call us for assistance. I would happily take anyone, guys or girls, back to their dorm."

The officers are available for virtually any service a student might request, at any hour of the night. They were there for the girls who had a snake in their laundry room. They were there for the frequent fire alarm alerts. They were there to take students back to their dorms. They were even there when one girl didn't want to touch the bug that was flying around her car. "We are here for the student's safety," Carr said. "If you need assistance with anything, just call us. We'll be here waiting at extension 2020."

4:45 a.m. Time to open the buildings for a new day. Campus is waking up.

6:00 a.m. The sun rises and the main gate opens.





Dana Meyer

Feeding the masses isn't quite as easy as Jesus made it look.

It takes much more than three fish and five loaves of bread to feed the entire student body, faculty and staff each day. The grill alone serves up about 800, 4 oz chicken breasts all made to order at lunch and dinner combined.

Samford's division of Dining Services employs 80 people from the cooks in the back to the people who eagerly greet you before every meal while swiping your Samford card. The first staff members arrive at 5 a.m. to prepare for breakfast. The rest of the staff stagger in throughout the rest of the morning to begin their specific duties.

Head Chef Chris Vizzina is in charge of the menu and comes up with all the recipes and combinations of food that are served at each meal. Nyeda Patterson is the service manager and is responsible for everything the public sees in the dining room. Under their leadership, the rest of the staff makes everything come together.

Some of the prep work is done the day before, but most of what is served is fresh.

"We try to cook everything to order," Dining Services general manager Ken Daniels said. "That way it will be a better product and there won't be as much left over. In the food business, there is a fine line between getting too far ahead of yourselves and not running out."

Deliveries are received daily, and Dining Services has contracts with local companies which provide fresh produce, milk and bread. Each week, Samford spends between \$25,000 and \$30,000 in food alone, not including worker's salaries or cleaning and paper supplies.

Feeding the amount of people the Caf does each day isn't just guess work. Each time your card is swiped, the computer counts the meal and records the time and date. Dining Services is then able to go back and look at any single meal from last year, and per 15 minutes, know how many people were fed.

"For instance, we know we're not going to be as busy as we normally would be the Friday before Spring Break, so we'll go back and run a 15 minute customer

count for the year before," Daniels said. "We are then able to give that number to our cooks and production staff and that way they'll know how many people to prepare for."

As most people know, the Caf always serves chicken fingers on Monday nights and meat loaf is every Thursday. Eating in the same place everyday for 15 weeks straight can get a little old.

"Typically in September and October you never get any complaints," Daniels said. "By the time November and December get here, people get tired of eating here. That fried chicken that was good in September doesn't taste as good in December."

Daniels said that there is no way to avoid duplicating entrees from week to week. Serving two different entrees at both lunch and dinner each day would come out to 112 different entrees each month. Finding 112 kinds of foods that everyone will enjoy is nearly impossible and accounts for the reputation of the more popular foods.

"The monotony is one of the biggest challenges we face," Daniels said. "The bottom line is that people just get tired of eating here. We try to incorporate the International station to change things up a bit."

With all of those hungry mouths to feed, the Caf does its best to stay on top. The next time you eat lunch or dinner, remember to give a smile of appreciation to the friendly faces who work day in and day out to keep your stomach satisfied.

# ROOTS

by [illegible]

There's no place like home. Many of us travel miles and miles to reach it. And while home might not be perfect, there's something that makes us want to go back. Whether it's to re-visit the dilapidated locker-room, the town library or the boy who stole our hearts, home is comprised of more than a memory. It's comprised of rainy days, frustrations, homework, dances, first kisses and heartaches. It's comprised of life.

For many of us, Samford is home. We come here for education and we stay for our futures. It is a stepping stone to prepare us for both education and service. At its best, Samford is a place that enables us to fulfill our callings as teachers, musicians, writers, ministers, biochemists and homemakers. At its worst, Samford is an unrealistic, protective bubble in need of bursting. Whatever your perception, for four years, Samford is home.

Our Samford home has not always looked like it does now: lush grass, beautiful buildings and a state of the art science-center. Samford's humble beginnings as Howard College left much to be desired. Named for Englishman John Howard, Howard College reflected ideals of education and selfless Christian service, two principles that Samford still espouses.

Howard College was established in 1841 by a group of Baptists in Marion, AL, a wealthy city adjacent to the cotton industry and slave economy. The college did not share in these riches, however, as effects from the Civil War, declining enrollments and bankruptcy forced the school's auction on the Perry Courthouse steps. In its first year, the college at Marion had enrolled a meager 31 students whose tuition did not even pay President Samuel Sherman's board. The school was so financially unstable that Sherman went door to door,

pushing a wheelbarrow and collecting books for the library. It was then that the city of Birmingham's "new industrial neighbor to the north," Birmingham, Alabama, offered to relocate the school to East Lake, a community near the thriving city.

The school at East Lake experienced a plethora of changes over the ensuing years. Until the early 1900s, the student body was all male and operated under military discipline, but in 1913, Howard College dropped the military program and decided to admit women as well as men. The early years of Howard brought the formation of the school's first organized football team. The team was organized in 1902, but it was suspended during World War II and was not reinstated until 1974. Another of Samford's most notable traditions, Greek life, existed primarily underground until 1902 when President Andrew Phillip lifted the ban. Howard College's first fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta, was an underground organization that used the front name, The Sixteenth Infantry, to shield its Greek affiliation. Social clubs were permitted, however, and a wide variety of them, such as: the Bo-Legged Club, the Mutt and Jeff Club, Dad's Black and White Jazz Hounds, and the Man Hater's Club to name a few, operated in lieu of Greek life. Today Greek life is a big part of the university, and currently it boasts six fraternities and seven sororities, a total of 42 percent of the undergraduate population. The mid 1900s proved to be another period of transformation, including a final move to Homewood in 1957. Under

President Harwell Davis, the school was reconstructed in Georgian-Colonial style, with Davis' successor, Leshe Wright, completing Davis' vision. The school was also elevated to university status under Wright and was given the name Samford University in honor of family trustee Frank Park Samford. During his presidency, Wright witnessed the construction of Reid Chapel, Pittman Hall, Vail Hall, the completion of the football stadium and the inception of Step Sing. Wright retired in 1983, and he remains the school's longest serving president. After his retirement, Wright continued to serve the school as university chancellor for the remainder of his life.

The late '90s ushered in a new era for Samford. Under President Thomas Corts, the school experienced what has been labeled, "remarkable growth." Samford took its place among the South's top five regional universities. It has posted record enrollments, established a London Study Centre as well as a host of other international study programs. It has undertaken half a dozen building projects, including the completion of Beeson Woods and West Campus. Corts has also fostered the utilization of a \$300 million endowment that has shaped the university for over three decades.

For almost 200 years, Samford has provided a home for countless students. The school has both adapted to change and prospered under the harshest of circumstances. Its ability to do so attests to the school's tenacity and vision. And while Samford has experienced prodigious change, each generation of students is woven together by a common thread: for God, for learning, forever. This is Samford's vision. This is home.

The Samford University family tragically suffered the loss of five students over the summer months and past school year.

**Charles Williams** was killed in an automobile accident in Birmingham on Friday, May 23. Williams was a pre-business major and member of the class of 2004. He graduated from Tarrant High School where he received acknowledgment as an outstanding athlete. Williams played cornerback on the Samford football team. He was known to students and faculty at Samford as personable, well-liked, and a bright student.

**Brandon Cheatwood** died in an automobile accident in St. Clair County on Monday, June 30. Cheatwood was a pre-med major and member of the class of 2006 from Riverside, Ala. Cheatwood aimed to become a medical missionary. He appeared in theater productions at Samford and was known for his endearing personality and sense of humor.

**Beverly Sanders** died on Wednesday, July 9. Sanders was from Birmingham and graduated in May 2003 with a degree in sociology. She was active in many campus and community organizations such as the SGA Executive Advisory Board, the Black Heritage Association, and Gamma Sigma Sigma. Sanders was known for her warm personality, dependability and a love for making a difference within the Samford community.

**Fred Waugh** died of a heart attack on Thursday, Aug. 14. Waugh graduated from Georgetown College and was pursuing a second career by attending undergraduate classes. He had been admitted to the Ida V. Moffet School of Nursing for the fall semester. Waugh is survived by his wife, Charlie, and their two children.

**Jessica Smith** was killed in an automobile accident on Sunday, Nov. 2. Smith was a history major and member of the class of 2005 from Harvest. She was an active participant in university events and a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. She was known for her thoughtful and kind spirit and loyalty to her friends.

Memorial services to honor these students were held, and both students and faculty shared words, sang and offered scripture readings in remembrance.

by Sarah Davis







This year I was honor'd to be your Voices / **Entre Nous** Art Director. I sat out at the end of last year thinking about what I could do to

bring you the best yearbook magazine, annual, whatever you want to call it, that I could. **Entre Nous** is correctly named, because when I created this magazine I had you in mind. My job started in June, when I was asked to create the faces cover. After about a month and half of trial and error I had my cover. You may notice that

there is a **missing** set of people. **Entre Nous** is You are involved in the community of people, just as **Entre Nous** is entwined into this community.

Knowing this, I set out to create the cover for **Entre Nous**. Many conceptual ideas later, I came upon this cover, at 5:03am Sunday morning, with the magazine set to go to the printer the next morning. I finished the cover. The cover you may notice has a single figure on it. That figure is myself. Again the

magazine is between you and me.

Spending about 100 hours on this publication I know it like the back of my hand, and I will cherish it because of that. I hope that is not how to cherish this magazine because it

just a yearbook, it has hopefully captured an entire year of your life here at Samford. Whether it has been a great year or a less than great year for you, it is a year of your life, which you spent at Samford. Samford, a place we can always come back to and feel at home. So, between you and me, I hope that

this publication makes you smile, laugh, and most of all

**year in review**

, as it has mine.

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